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BELIZE – QROO MEET

ADVANCE TO MOU FOR COOPERATION & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

'facilitate meaningful business collaboration between the private sectors of both parties, promising easier information-sharing and providing greater business opportunities' – **GoB**

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BELIZE'S ECONOMY GROWS 5.1% IN THE 1st QUARTER OF 2026

Integrity Commission | Health | Climate | Belize@UN | Region | MORE...

Partial Scope Agreement With El Salvador: Signing July 2

MSME Roadshow Takes off in SISE

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PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

115 BELIZEANS APPLY TO SERVE THE PEOPLE

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PM Briceño Handling Mira Matter Responsibly

An Independent Perspective

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TRANSFER PERIOD JULY 1 TO AUGUST 31

For Registered voters who reside at a new Electoral Division for not less than two (2) months

BELIZE – QROO MEET

ADVANCE TO MOU FOR COOPERATION & STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

BELIZE and the State of Quintana Roo, Mexico, Meeting on Investment, Economic Cooperation and Coordination

A high-level meeting between the Government of Belize, the Mexican Federal Government, and the State of Quintana Roo was held in the Pegasus Conference Room, Princess Vegas on June 19, 2026. Primarily, the objective of the meeting was to advance ongoing regional cooperation and strategic partnerships between Belize and Mexico.

The focus of the meeting was the planning of several initiatives targeting investment promotion, trade, and other economic development initiatives through the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Government of Belize and the Mexican State of Quintana Roo. Several key pillars of the bilateral relationship formed a part of the important discussion, most notably investment promotion, coordination to attract synchronised factories in Belize and Quintana Roo, and plans to integrate the multimodal transportation system of the region for cargo and passengers between Belize and Quintana Roo, especially through the Tren Maya. According to Lincoln Blake, Director of Investment and Trade, there have been six meetings thus far, and currently, this meeting will culminate with the signing of an MOU between the Prime Minister, John Briceño and the Governor of Quintana Roo. It is renewed with an expansion in the scope of the agreement. Members of the meeting reviewed Mexico's economic development centres, including the industrial parks in Chetumal, and explored strategies for coordinated investment promotion to supply the CARICOM markets.

The magnitude of the neighbourly meeting cannot be overstated, as the conversation has been ongoing since the early nineteen-nineties. In an article written by Joseph Iyo, titled, Belize and the Challenges of Globalisation, circa 1998, the writer posits that "Belize must take regional unity much more seriously, regional in terms of contiguity and concrete markets." Continuing, Iyo proffered, "If the United States of America is taking NAFTA this seriously, and the Europeans are strengthening their economic and political ties in the era of globalisation, then it goes without saying that Belize cannot afford the luxury of taking CARICOM and the Central American regional groupings lightly." Iyo's rationale was that Belize needed to be more aggressive to benefit from both sides of the regional groupings. However, Belize lacked the economies of scale and would not be able to do it alone.

Unfortunately, prior governments failed to engage that aggressiveness to maximise Belize's economic development. Recently, in the Executive Summary of an IMF article titled, WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK: Global Economy in the Shadows of War, it advised that countries should cooperate and take coordinated actions to restore stability in international economic relations, supported a predictable, transparent, and well-communicated trade policy framework. Incidentally, Belize just wrapped up the Belize/Mexico economic summit, intended to strengthen economic cooperation and to attract investment between the two countries. Furthermore, Belize has fast become the bridge of opportunities to the CARICOM region, Central America and the neighbouring country, Mexico.

Since the PUP, the John Briceño administration took over the reins of government, it has restored the confidence of the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and investors both locally and globally. Additionally, the administration has applied the aggressive approach that was long overdue in expanding its reach in regional integration, ultimately benefiting Belize from the regional groupings. It was at the Belize Investment Summit 2025 that a delegation from the Mexican State of Quintana Roo expressed interest in the renewal of the MOU with the Government of Belize. The updated version of the MOU will cement both parties' commitment to regional cooperation and strategic partnership. Furthermore, it will have direct participation of the Federal Government of Mexico. The document will be centred on several key areas aforementioned.

Considering the importance of the meeting in advancing Belize's position as a gateway of opportunities in regional economic development, the Briceño government is committed to the development of the country and its people.

By Hilly Bennett

PM Briceño Handling Mira Matter Responsibly

An Independent Perspective

-Contributed-

The revelations and accusations regarding business conducted and payments made by a government department to establishments operated by persons related to a minister of government have been in the news over the past few weeks and certainly have to be addressed by the government. No one would deny this. And ultimately the buck stops with the Prime Minister. That's a given.

Now, it is easy these days to sensationalize anything associated with alleged corruption by public officials, particularly elected politicians and those closely related to them. But the objective questions here are, is this a legitimate case to be examined, is the matter being handled as it should, and will action be taken to correct whatever went wrong. As a Belizean with no particular political alignment nor axe to grind, here are my reasoned views on the issue.

On the first count, the Prime Minister has readily accepted full responsibility to address the concerns and fix whatever went wrong. In fact, the very day he returned to the country last week, he emphatically stated to the news media, ***"We will have to fix this."*** And he went on to outline how he proposed to get to the bottom of the matter in order to address it.

"Well, the first thing is that today I am speaking with the Financial Secretary for him to ask the Auditor General to go and do an audit into that period in question, and to ensure that, one, there has been value for money; secondly, that the procurement process was followed properly, and then to get a report," the PM outlined.

This, to me, seems logical, responsible and fair. *"I don't want to prejudice the report. So I'm hoping, then, that we could be able to get that report; and based on the report, then we can act,"* the PM explained. This is what all right-thinking, fair-minded citizens were expecting. I, for one, find this quite reassuring, providing the PM follows through on his commitment.

The PM further indicated that, with respect to the Reconstruction and Development Corporation (RECONDEV), chaired by a brother of the minister in question, he was moving immediately to name a new board led by a new chairman. This, to me, clearly signaled that the PM means action. (RECONDEV, which is responsible for land management and infrastructure planning in Belmopan, has also been an area of concern and part of the narrative surrounding the accusations of alleged abuse by close relatives of the minister).

As to the question of following through on his pledge to fix the overall issue and get to the bottom of the substantive matter, the audit has indeed been ordered and initiated as promised. What's more is that the minister has concurrently been granted leave of absence from Cabinet.

I note the Prime Minister's remarks confirming and communicating this to the Belizean public: *"Obviously, it is something of concern, and we felt that it was the best decision that Minister Mira asked to be excused from Cabinet, and also that we then asked both Minister (Julius) Espat to take over (Ministry of) Home Affairs and Minister (Henry Charles) Usher to take over the Free Zones (Ministry of Enterprise),"* the PM spelled out.

This, I must also acknowledge, adds an extra layer of assurance that the process will be fair and thorough, removing any doubt as to whether the minister could possibly use his authority as a member of Cabinet to influence the process or its outcome. It also guarantees, of course, that the important work of the government continues uninterrupted, with two senior members of Cabinet immediately taking up the ministerial responsibilities surrendered.

In this regard, the Prime Minister clearly demonstrates his understanding and appreciation for what remains the most important responsibility and purpose for him and his government, when he states, *"We were saddened by what has happened, but our work comes first. We have to look after the interest of the government and the people of Belize. That's what we were elected for."* Well said.

It is important to note here that while there are those who, for obvious political reasons, will never give the Prime Minister any credit for his swift action on this matter, the vast majority of Belizeans like myself are most interested in seeing the issue addressed fairly and in a timely manner, and that it be fixed so the government can be run efficiently and the country continues to move forward.

Recent history has taught us that second terms are difficult for governments and prime ministers. It was difficult for Mr. Musa. It was particularly difficult for Mr. Barrow, who only managed to manufacture a third term by calling two very early elections within his twelve and a half years as Prime Minister.

I had no illusions as to whether it would be easy for Mr. Briceño. But, to his credit, the PM himself obviously had no illusions either, as he warned his own Party on the night of the 2025 general elections when they were re-elected that the new term would be difficult.

We, the Belizean people at large, don't expect any miracles from this Prime Minister. What we expect of him is to act promptly and responsibly in correcting things when they go wrong, and to ensure that the good things he and his government have been doing for the country continue to be built upon and not be undermined by the challenges always associated with governance, which are invariably amplified in multiple-term administrations.

Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for accepting the responsibility and embracing the opportunity to continue working hard for Belize. God bless you. God Bless Belize!

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serving Belize since 1957 as the longest continuous newspaper.

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OFFICE MANAGER
Fay Castillo
EDITOR
José Jiménez
LAYOUT/GRAPHIC ARTIST
Chris Williams
OFFICE ASSISTANT
Roberto Peyrefitte

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EDITORIAL

PARTIAL SCOPES: PEOPLE FULLY BENEFIT

Five point one per cent GDP growth: another Financial Quarter report, and, in the most positive of summaries, Belize is growing faster than many. While the world's GDP is growing at an average of 2.9 per cent in the first quarter of 2026, and neighbour Mexico is contracting at 0.8 per cent, and the United States is growing at 1.6 per cent along with China at just under 5 per cent, Belize is standing strong on its own powered by its people who have bought in to planBelize and to the John Briceño team. But even as we are growing faster by percentage than most of our Caribbean and Central American brother and sister nations, the John Briceño team is hard at work, literally scoping out the world for more trade opportunities for our people. For example, what was merely dreams, possibilities and plans is now being consolidated into a Partial Scope Agreement (PSA) with El Salvador. In trade, a PSA is equivalent to probation of sorts, a measure of magnanimous confidence in Belize. Belize is fully prepared to sign a Partial Scope agreement with our neighbour, El Salvador, this coming week. This is broad confidence in the people of Belize and planBelize.

A PSA is a basic, reciprocal trade treaty that reduces or eliminates tariffs on a specifically listed, limited number of goods rather than across the board. It serves as a targeted first step toward deeper commercial integration between two or more countries. PSAs differ significantly from full Free Trade Agreements, which Belize is a signatory to with CARICOM's CSME and, maybe someday, with Central America. The details of any agreements will come out upon signing, but the upside is palpable. Belize gains another huge market of some six million Salvadoreños—including family to many Belizeans. Businesses of varied acumen are strongly advised to take note of this agreement and analyse how to invest. Belize needs everyone on board, and sceptics are welcome; they come with Democracy.

PSAs generally apply preferential treatment to a predefined list of specific products. For example, the Belize-Guatemala Partial Scope Agreement covers only about 150 specified tradable products, such as yellow corn, black beans, and tilapia. There are selective tariffs or varying tariff reductions exclusively for the agreed-upon items. To prevent third-party countries from abusing preferential rates, PSAs enforce strict Rules of Origin, requiring products to undergo substantial transformation in Belize to qualify for PSA benefits.

Going back to the Belize-El Salvador PSA, talks began as early as June 2022 at the Summit of the Americas, when ministers committed to negotiating a mutually beneficial PSA. Then, in August 2023, a General Framework Agreement was signed to formally establish the scope of the agreement, laying the foundation for future textile and agricultural trade. This was followed by several rounds of negotiations through 2024, focusing on trade facilitation and finalising all core chapters of the agreement. An important step was obtaining successful approval from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in late 2025. The latter was needed to finalise the bilateral trade deal while ensuring compliance with regional common market frameworks. The agreement is a major step forward in regional integration, opening specific El Salvadoran markets to vital Belizean products such as citrus, carrots, onions, and pineapples. The formal signing of the Partial Scope Agreement is scheduled to take place in San Salvador. An important step to all the above was the overland journey taken by the previous Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Jose Mai. He and a delegation trekked across Guatemala towards San Salvador to gain firsthand experience of what trade with El Salvador would entail.

Another example: Belize and the Republic of China (Taiwan) also enjoy a PSA, the Economic Cooperation Agreement, which provides preferential tariff access for specific Belizean goods to the Taiwanese market. This was ratified by the Senate of Belize and provides Belizean exporters with preferential access to the Taiwanese market for close to 200 classes of goods. For example, among the goods receiving complete duty-free entry are crude soybean oil, cheese, lobster, and more. The full list is available online and is a must-read for exporters. The agreement provides for several Categories of goods. Tariffs can be phased out for some Categories for different time spans. The agreement also provides "non-Category A" goods with preferential benefits, albeit relatively less than those grouped under Category A. For instance, the tariffs for Category B products are to be phased out over a three-year period, while Categories C and D are phased out over a five- and ten-year period, respectively. Even a tariff-rate quota for sugar exports to Taiwan is included.

With the impending historic signing with El Salvador, it is worth repeating that different PSAs will have very different details on tariffs, goods, duration and limitations. One must also note that, in this case, the country in question, El Salvador, stands to benefit. Belize is unique because most countries are much bigger in population, so Belize always stands to benefit from larger consumer bases. But since we are smaller, there is always an in-built mechanism to protect our local industries. As Belize moves to trade with our neighbours, the promise of Belize becoming the regional hub is becoming a reality. Our neighbours are increasingly confident that Belize is a veritable trade partner, rich in human and natural resources. The Belizean people are poised to truly benefit.

en Español

LOS ALCANCES PARCIALES: LA POBLACIÓN SE BENEFICIA PLENAMENTE

Un crecimiento del PIB del 5,1 %: otro informe trimestral financiero y, en el resumen más positivo, Belice crece más rápido que muchos otros países. Mientras que el PIB mundial crece a una media del 2,9 % en el primer trimestre de 2026, el vecino México se contrae un 0,8 % y Estados Unidos crece un 1,6 %, junto con China, que lo hace en torno al 5 %, Belice se mantiene firme por sí mismo, impulsado por su gente que ha apostado por «planBelice» y por el equipo de John Briceño. Pero, aunque estamos creciendo en términos porcentuales más rápido que la mayoría de nuestras naciones hermanas del Caribe y Centroamérica, el equipo de John Briceño trabaja sin descanso, explorando literalmente el mundo en busca de más oportunidades comerciales para nuestro pueblo. Por ejemplo, lo que antes no era más que sueños, posibilidades y planes, ahora se está consolidando en un Acuerdo de Alcance Parcial (PSA) con El Salvador. En materia comercial, un PSA equivale a una especie de período de prueba, una muestra de gran confianza en Belice. Belice está plenamente preparado para firmar un acuerdo de alcance parcial con nuestro vecino, El Salvador, la próxima semana. Esto supone una gran confianza en el pueblo de Belice y en planBelice.

Un PSA es un tratado comercial básico y recíproco que reduce o elimina los aranceles sobre un número limitado de productos específicamente enumerados, en lugar de hacerlo de forma generalizada. Sirve como un primer paso específico hacia una mayor integración comercial entre dos o más países. Los PSA difieren significativamente de los acuerdos de libre comercio completos, de los que Belice es signatario con el CSME de la CARICOM y, quizá algún día, con Centroamérica. Los detalles de cualquier acuerdo se darán a conocer tras la firma, pero las ventajas son palpables. Belice gana otro enorme mercado de unos seis millones de salvadoreños, entre los que se encuentran familiares de muchos beliceños. Se recomienda encarecidamente a las empresas de todo tipo que tomen nota de este acuerdo y analicen cómo invertir. Belice necesita la participación de todos, y los escépticos son bienvenidos; forman parte de la democracia.

Los PSA suelen otorgar un trato preferencial a una lista predefinida de productos. Por ejemplo, el Acuerdo de Alcance Parcial entre Belice y Guatemala abarca solo unos 150 productos específicos comercializables, como el maíz amarillo, las alubias negras y la tilapia. Existen aranceles selectivos o reducciones arancelarias variables aplicables exclusivamente a los artículos acordados. Para evitar que terceros países abusen de los tipos preferenciales, los acuerdos de comercio preferencial (PSA) aplican normas de origen estrictas que exigen que los productos se sometan a una transformación sustancial en Belice para acogerse a los beneficios del acuerdo.

Volviendo al acuerdo de comercio preferencial entre Belice y El Salvador, las conversaciones comenzaron ya en junio de 2022 en la Cumbre de las Américas, cuando los ministros se comprometieron a negociar un acuerdo de comercio preferencial mutuamente beneficioso. Posteriormente, en agosto de 2023, se firmó un Acuerdo Marco General para establecer formalmente el alcance del acuerdo, sentando así las bases para el futuro comercio textil y agrícola. A esto le siguieron varias rondas de negociación a lo largo de 2024, centradas en facilitar el comercio y en finalizar todos los capítulos fundamentales del acuerdo. Un paso importante fue obtener la aprobación de la Comunidad del Caribe (CARICOM) a finales de 2025. Esto último era necesario para ultimar el acuerdo comercial bilateral, garantizando al mismo tiempo el cumplimiento de los marcos regionales del mercado común. El acuerdo supone un gran paso adelante en la integración regional, ya que abre a El Salvador mercados específicos para productos beliceños de vital importancia, como los cítricos, las zanahorias, las cebollas y las piñas. La firma oficial del Acuerdo de Alcance Parcial está prevista para realizarse en San Salvador. Un paso importante para todo lo anterior fue el viaje por tierra realizado por el anterior ministro de Agricultura, el honorable José Mai. Él y una delegación recorrieron Guatemala hasta San Salvador para conocer de primera mano lo que supondría el comercio con El Salvador.

Otro ejemplo: Belice y la República de China (Taiwán) también cuentan con un PSA, el Acuerdo de Cooperación Económica que ofrece acceso arancelario preferencial para determinados productos beliceños al mercado taiwanés. Este acuerdo fue ratificado por el Senado de Belice y otorga a los exportadores beliceños acceso preferencial al mercado taiwanés para cerca de 200 categorías de productos. Por ejemplo, entre los productos que gozan de una exención total de aranceles se encuentran el aceite de soja crudo, el queso, la langosta, entre otros. La lista completa está disponible en línea y es de lectura obligatoria para los exportadores. El acuerdo establece varias categorías de productos. Los aranceles pueden eliminarse progresivamente en algunas categorías, con plazos distintos. El acuerdo también otorga beneficios preferenciales a los productos «no incluidos en la categoría A», aunque estos son relativamente menores que los de los incluidos en la categoría A. Por ejemplo, los aranceles de los productos de la categoría B se eliminarán progresivamente a lo largo de un período de tres años, mientras que los de las categorías C y D se eliminarán progresivamente en un plazo de cinco y diez años, respectivamente. Incluso se incluye un contingente arancelario para las exportaciones de azúcar a Taiwán.

Ante la inminente firma histórica con El Salvador, conviene recordar que los distintos acuerdos de asociación estratégica (PSA) presentarán detalles muy diferentes en cuanto a aranceles, mercancías, duración y limitaciones. También hay que señalar que, en este caso, el país en cuestión, El Salvador, se beneficiará. Belice es un caso único, ya que la mayoría de los países tienen una población mucho mayor, por lo que Belice siempre se beneficia de unas bases de consumidores más amplias. Sin embargo, dado que somos más pequeños, siempre existe un mecanismo integrado para proteger nuestras industrias locales. A medida que Belice avanza en el comercio con nuestros vecinos, la promesa de convertirse en el centro regional se hace realidad. Nuestros vecinos confían cada vez más en que Belice es un auténtico socio comercial, rico en recursos humanos y naturales. El pueblo beliceño está preparado para beneficiarse de verdad.

Hon. John Briceño – OWC Committee

CELEBRATING Father's - Mother's

June 20, 2026

NORTHERN CAUCUS MEETS

The People's United Party continues to move forward with unity, purpose, and an unwavering commitment to serving the people.

This week's meeting, graciously hosted by the Orange Walk East Executive Committee and Area Representative Hon. Kevin Bernard, brought together party members and leaders for meaningful discussions focused on strengthening families and communities.

Participants received an informative presentation from the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs on current legislative reforms aimed at combating Gender Based Violence and including the introduction of the New Parenting Manual. The National Commission on Families and Children also presented the Blue Teddy Bear Campaign, raising awareness and promoting action against child abuse.

Together, we remain committed to building stronger families, protecting our children, and creating a brighter future for all Belizeans. (post)

NOW OPEN BLAZE Awards 2026! Applications

DEADLINE:

Sept 30, 2026

The BLAZE Awards Gala 2026 is celebrating the nation's most outstanding entrepreneurs, innovators, and business leaders who are driving economic growth, sustainability, creativity, and community development.

• Submit a 2-minute video pitch showcasing your business, impact, and achievements for a chance to gain national recognition and inspire the next generation of Belizean entrepreneurs.

Award Categories:

- Great Blue Entrepreneur of the Year (Blue Economy)
- Sustainable Entrepreneur of the Year (Green Economy)
- Creative Entrepreneur of the Year (Orange Economy)
- Youth Entrepreneur of the Year
- Female Entrepreneur of the Year
- Disruptor of the Year

Why Apply? One can gain national recognition | Showcase your business on a prestigious platform | Connect with industry leaders and fellow entrepreneurs | Increase visibility for your brand | Compete for awards and exciting opportunities | Inspire future generations of Belizean entrepreneurs

Application Deadline: September 30, 2026; Time: 11:59 PM

How to Apply:

- Complete the official application form
- Upload your 2-minute video pitch
- Submit application here https://forms.gle/ENekKiiLBT9KFEkR6 before the deadline
- Applicants may apply for multiple categories; a separate video pitch is required for each category. Applicants must be Belizean citizens to be eligible for an award.

**For nominations, sponsorship opportunities, or more information: Call 880-3737 or go to marketing@beltraide.bz

FREETOWN SUMMER CLASSES
MATH and ENGLISH
will be held at ALL SAINT'S SCHOOL
for children going into Std. 3, 4, 5, and 6.
[Classes will be facilitated by Teacher Dennis Thompson]
STARTING JULY 13 TO JULY 24, 2026
8:30am sharp until Noon
Please call the Freetown Office (672-0528)
or pick up a Registration Form at our office.

LETTER TO THE Editor

Media Miss it Again!

Dear Editor,

The news of Belize going to sign a Partial Scope trade agreement with a country of 6.4 million people, plus their visiting tourists, flew over the heads of the listless media. By God, fake independent media, stop insulting the people. They can see clearly that you are for the incompetent and virulent UDP even if u hide behind the foreign lord…. cause he is NOT for-Belize.

When a neighboring country that is smaller than Belize by 867 square miles agrees to sign a trade deal with us that is SUPER NEWS. When El Salvador offers millions of consumers to our products that is SUPER NEWS for the people, for our Businesses.

Business people that could invest should be alerted.

Sadly, the people of El Salvador watching our manipulated news would say, 'look at their media, we are offering millions and jobs to them and they ignore it, belittle it". UDP media only seeks to return their corrupted and incompetent UDP patrons to continue Barrow's destruction of Belize.

With this agreement, job seekers in our small labour pool still waiting for a job can add to their list of possible job placements.

But my ....

As I read last week in this paper, the UDP media drive over and ignore hundreds of miles of great road and stop at a few potholes. Aha .... We knew it, you are corrupt, and doing a horrible job. Nevermind that your UDP financier Imer was responsible.... crickets on that point.

Time and again, the media exits BIG TIME events or wait outside of consequential meetings and the good news for Belize is diabolically ignored in attempts to search for anything that might give the UDP relevance.

News flash UDP....relevance comes with good candidates and a good plan....

Presently, the PUP has great leaders and new candidates lined up and plan-Belize.....thriving.

UDP reporters and anchors..... PLEASE stop insulting the people. We have heard the Mira point....do not ignore the development of Belize for your agenda cause then.....3030 is your destiny.

Oh ...Belize grew 5.1 percent in the last quarter. BLAST THAT!!!!

From,

Human First, Belizean Next, PUP the Best

Government of BELIZE

Belize Press Office
822.0094 or 822.0092
822.2671
www.pressoffice.gov.bz

Cabinet Brief

Belmopan, June 25, 2026.
The Cabinet met on June 23, 2026.

- The Prime Minister briefed Cabinet on the request of the Honourable Oscar Mira to take a leave of absence and the Prime Minister's decision to accept same.
  Following from this, Cabinet discussed and examined the existing Government Procurement Rules and considered that the current process of comprehensively reviewing and updating these Procurement Rules (including the Financial Orders 1965, the Stores Orders 1968), must be fast-tracked. Cabinet therefore directed that the new draft Procurement Rules be submitted for its consideration within the next three months.
- The Prime Minister apprised Cabinet of preparation for Belize to assume the presidency (Pro-Tempore) of the Central American Integration System (SICA) for the period July to December of 2026. While SICA focuses on five priority pillars, namely economic and social integration, institutional strengthening, democratic security, climate change and sustainable development, Belize intends to go even further by including discussions on issues such as migration, energy, regional and international cooperation, and disaster risk management.
- Cabinet gave its approval for Belize to sign and later ratify a Partial Scope Agreement with the Government of the Republic of El Salvador.
  The Agreement, which will be signed on the 2nd July 2026 in San Salvador, forms part of Belize's border strategy to diversify export markets to deepen economic integration with Latin America and strengthen trade and investment opportunities for Belizean businesses. Beyond trade in goods, the agreement establishes a framework for deeper economic cooperation between Belize and El Salvador.
- Cabinet gave its approval for the establishment of a governance structure for the development of the Electronic Single Window (ESW) for trade. The ESW is intended to become the national platform through which all import and export documents will be submitted and processed electronically. This governance structure will oversee the development, implementation and operationalization of the Electronic Single Window for Trade.
- Cabinet approved the implementation of a cost of power adjustment (COPA) to the electricity rate, which would avoid a large immediate increase in electricity rates, provide greater transparency, allow customers to benefit when power costs decline, and aligns Belize with international regulatory practices used throughout North America, Central America, and the Caribbean
- Cabinet approved the introduction of the Credit Union Bill to provide for the continuance, registration, licensing, management, and supervision of Credit Unions. In addition, Cabinet approved the repeal of the Credit Union Act, Chapter 413, of the substantive laws of Belize.
- Cabinet approved the final modifications of the proposed Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Belize Compact to strengthen the energy project to enhance the Compact's ability to achieve lasting economic growth and reduce poverty in Belize.
- Finally, Cabinet advises all Belizeans to remain alert and prepared during the hurricane season.

Ends

Resilient Bold Belize
GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Duty Station: Belize City

The Government of Belize, through the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP), invites applications for the position of Finance Assistant under the Resilient Bold Belize (RBB) Project, part of the GEF Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program. The RBB Project supports the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems while promoting sustainable livelihoods and strengthening financial and institutional systems for people-centred conservation. The project is executed by the Government of Belize (BBFP) with WWF-GEF US serving as the GEF Agency.

Position Summary

The Finance Assistant will be based in Belize City within the BBFP Unit and will provide financial and administrative support to ensure efficient and compliant project implementation. The position supports budgeting, financial reporting, procurement, contract administration, and audit processes in accordance with WWF (GEF Agency) requirements and Government of Belize financial procedures.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist in budget preparation, expenditure monitoring, and financial reporting
- Maintain accurate and auditable financial records
- Validate and process payments in accordance with approved budgets
- Support procurement processes and contract administration
- Prepare financial inputs for donor reporting and Project Progress Reports
- Assist with audits, evaluations, and compliance monitoring
- Provide administrative and logistical support for project activities

Qualifications and Experience

- Minimum Associate Degree in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration, or related field (bachelor's degree is an asset).
- At least three (3) years' experience in financial management, accounting, or budgeting.
- Experience in donor-funded projects, government institutions, or NGOs preferred.
- Demonstrated experience in budget preparation, financial reporting, expenditure monitoring, audit support, procurement, and contract administration.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Excel and accounting software (e.g., QuickBooks).

Interested applicants may request a copy of the Full Terms of Reference by **e-mailing:** rbbpm.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz with the subject line **"Financial Assistant TOR."** Full TOR is also available on the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit's **Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages.**

Applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, 3rd July 2026 at 4:00 p.m.** All applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview. The Committee will conduct due diligence to verify the information provided in the **detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)** and during the interview process.

IDB

REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)
(COMPANY)

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF MARKET COMPLEX, ORANGE WALK TOWN, BELIZE

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize, Central America
Project: Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program
Process ID: BL-L1046 – P00041
Deadline: **July 21st, 2026,** at 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the Program's proceeds to procure the services of a Company for the "**Design and Construction of Market Complex, Orange Walk Town, Belize**", and invites eligible and qualified bidders to submit sealed bids for these works.

Interested companies can access the full version of this RFB online at https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and submit their bid in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version of the RFB.

ATTN:
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NUMBER 9/2026

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be $83,200,000.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of $200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Tuesday, 7 July 2026 and will be redeemed on Tuesday, 6 October 2026.

Each tender must be for $200 or a multiple of $200. Bid yields must be submitted to five decimal places.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 3 July 2026.

The auction in the CSD will be opened from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Tuesday 7 July 2026.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

11 June 2026

NORTHERN MEDICAL Specialty PLAZA

ORCHID DRIVE, B.S.I. AREA, ORANGE WALK TOWN, BELIZE PHONE: 302-3708

Northern Medical Plaza invites applications from experienced, dynamic, energetic, self-motivated and professional individuals for the following positions:

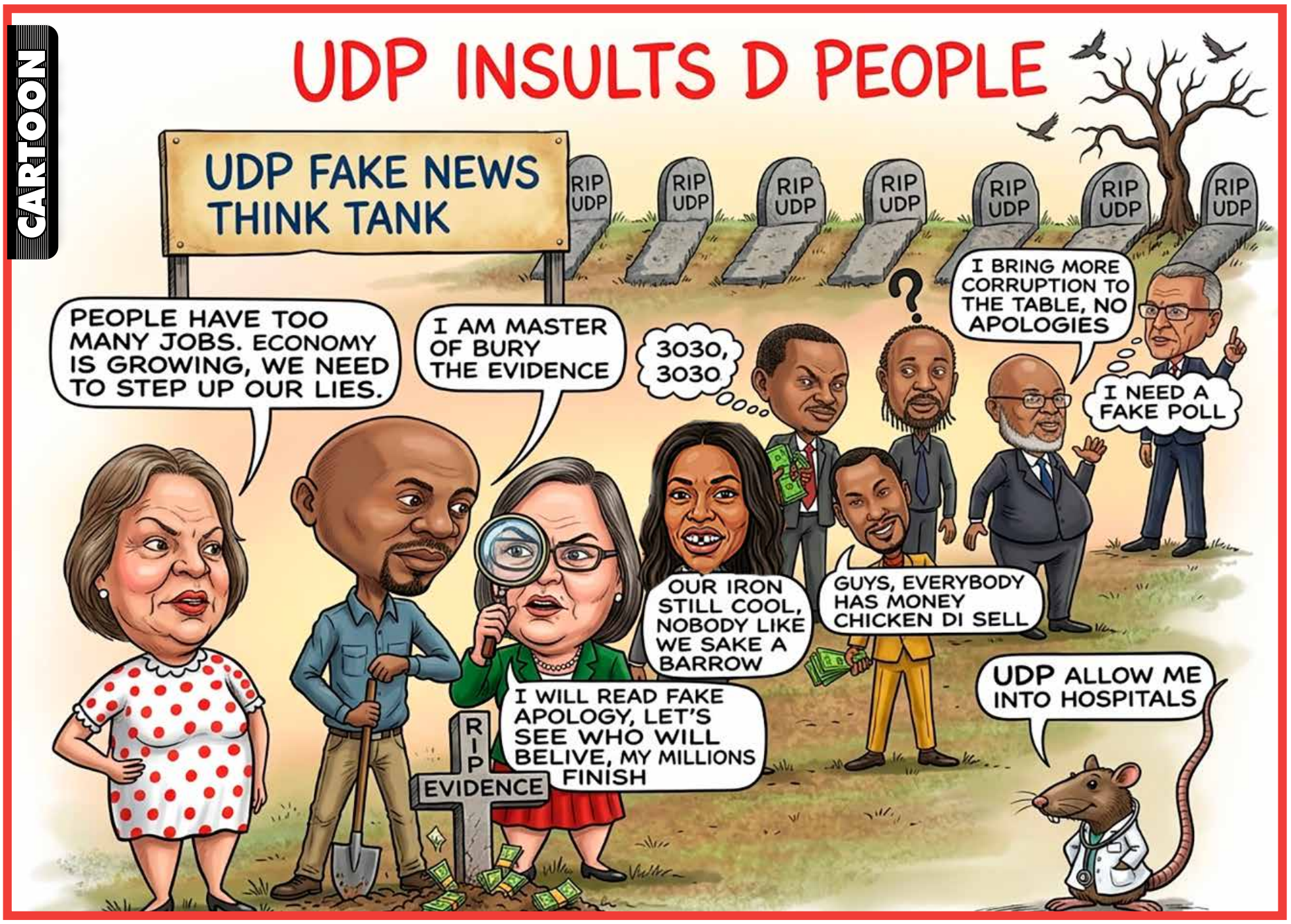
Radiologist
General Surgeon
Dentist & Maxilofacial Surgeon

Qualification

Medical Degree
Valid License from Belize Medical Council

Applications close: July 15th, 2026
Please submit application letter and three References to:
northernmedicalhrdept@gmail.com
General Manager
Northern Medical Specialty Plaza Ltd.
Orchid Drive, BSI Area
Orange Walk Town

CARTOON


UDP INSULTS D PEOPLE
UDP FAKE NEWS THINK TANK
RIP UDP
PEOPLE HAVE TOO MANY JOBS. ECONOMY IS GROWING, WE NEED TO STEP UP OUR LIES.
I AM MASTER OF BURY THE EVIDENCE
3030, 3030
I BRING MORE CORRUPTION TO THE TABLE, NO APOLOGIES
I NEED A FAKE POLL
OUR IRON STILL COOL, NOBODY LIKE WE SAKE A BARROW
GUYS, EVERYBODY HAS MONEY CHICKEN DI SELL
I WILL READ FAKE APOLOGY, LET'S SEE WHO WILL BELIVE, MY MILLIONS FINISH
RIP
EVIDENCE
UDP ALLOW ME INTO HOSPITALS

3rd NATIONAL MSME ROADSHOW

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

PRIME MINISTER JOHN BRICEÑO

OPENING CEREMONY

SAN IGNACIO RESORT HOTEL | 24 JUNE 2026

Good afternoon,

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is truly a pleasure to join you here today in the beautiful Twin Towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena as we officially launch the Third National MSME Roadshow.

I extend warm greetings to all our invited guests, our public and private sector partners, our sponsors, members of the business community, students, and most importantly, the entrepreneurs gathered here today. Today, we are not simply opening another event on the calendar. We are reaffirming our national commitment to Belizean entrepreneurship and to the thousands of hardworking men and women whose businesses are the heartbeat of the Belizean economy.

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises are the foundation upon which our communities are built. They are the family-owned stores that serve our neighborhoods, our farmers and artisans, our tour operators and restaurants, our mechanics, and increasingly, our digital entrepreneurs. They are found in every district, every municipality, and every village in Belize.

That is why supporting MSMEs has been and remains a priority of my Government. Through Plan Belize, we committed ourselves to building an economy that is more inclusive, more resilient, and more diversified. We recognized that a strong economy is not built solely through large investments and major infrastructure projects. It is also built by the small businesses that open their doors every morning, employ Belizeans, and contribute to the prosperity of our communities.

Our MSMEs are not simply participants in our economy; they are engines of growth and drivers of national development. This year marks an important milestone as we launch the Third National MSME Roadshow. Since its introduction in 2022, this initiative has connected with more than 2,000 entrepreneurs across Belize. That level of participation speaks volumes about the ambition and determination of Belizean business owners who continue to seek opportunities to learn, grow, and expand.

This year, the Roadshow will once again travel throughout Belize, making ten stops in every municipality, including our island communities of San Pedro and Caye Caulker. That nationwide reach is intentional because opportunity should not depend on where you live. Whether you are in Corozal or Toledo, Benque Viejo or Caye Caulker, every entrepreneur deserves access to the tools, resources, and support needed to build and grow a successful business.

This Government is committed to ensuring that no entrepreneur is left behind, and we have been putting that commitment into action. One of our most significant initiatives over the past year was the MSME Tax Amnesty Program, designed to help businesses formalize their operations, regularize their status, and gain a fresh start. The response exceeded our expectations. More than 900 applications were received from entrepreneurs throughout Belize, and over 800 MSMEs were approved to receive twelve months of business tax relief.

But this program was never just about tax relief. It was about creating pathways to formalization, expanded market access, increasing access to grants and other opportunities, and empowering entrepreneurs to build more resilient businesses that can contribute even more meaningfully to Belize's economic future. Through nationwide one-stop clinics, government services were brought directly to our people, making it easier than ever for entrepreneurs to register their businesses and engage with the institutions that exist to support them.

This is what responsive government looks like.

This is what partnership looks like.

This is what building an enabling environment for business looks like.

Through BELTRAIDE, our Government continues to invest in the growth and competitiveness of Belizean businesses. In 2025 alone, BELTRAIDE supported over 1,400 MSMEs, facilitated over $35 million in investments, provided over $678,000 in grants, supported the creation and retention of thousands of jobs, and helped Belizean businesses access new international markets, generating over $44 million in export sales.

Nearly one thousand entrepreneurs and exporters participated in training and capacity-building programmes designed to improve productivity, strengthen management practices, and prepare businesses for future opportunities. These achievements are more than numbers. They represent businesses growing, families being supported, and communities becoming more prosperous. Most importantly, they demonstrate what is possible when Government works in partnership with entrepreneurs and provides them with the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

And we also recognize that the world of business is changing. Technology, innovation and digital commerce are reshaping the global economy. The entrepreneurs of tomorrow will need new skills, new tools, and new ways of doing business. That is why Government has supported regional initiatives such as the MIPYME en Línea Programme, a SICA Region program funded by the US State Department, supporting MSMEs in adopting digital technologies and strengthening their participation in the digital economy and providing businesses with over US$100,000 in support for e-commerce investments.

We want Belizean entrepreneurs to compete not only locally, but regionally and internationally as well. I am proud to say that Belize is increasingly being recognized as a leader in MSME development.

This year, we assume the Presidency Pro Tempore of CENPROMYPE, a tremendous honour and responsibility. This leadership role provides an opportunity for Belize to showcase the progress we have made while helping to shape regional policies that strengthen entrepreneurship, encourage innovation, and create greater opportunities for MSMEs throughout Central America and the wider SICA region.

This is truly a reflection of the confidence our regional partners have in Belize and in our vision for economic development. But while we celebrate our achievements, we also recognize that challenges remain. Many entrepreneurs continue to face difficulties accessing financing. Others are seeking new markets and opportunities to grow. Many are navigating the challenges of digital transformation and increasing competition. Government alone cannot solve these challenges. Success requires partnership. It requires collaboration between government, financial institutions, the private sector, development partners, and entrepreneurs themselves.

That is why this Roadshow is so important. It is more than a series of events. It is a platform for engagement, collaboration, learning, and action. It is a space where entrepreneurs can connect with support agencies, explore opportunities, access information, and share their experiences. It is also a space where Government listens. Because the best policies are not developed in offices alone. They are developed by listening to the people who understand firsthand the realities of building and growing a business in Belize.

And perhaps the greatest measure of success is found in the stories of our entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs like Ms. Sharlene Williams of Belizean Sweets and Treats, who has built a thriving business centered on promoting Belizean Creole culture through our food, clothing, and music. Through the opportunities created by the National MSME Roadshow, she has been able to scale her business and reach new customers. Or Ms. Jessica Reyes, owner of Reyes Heirloom Beauty, who followed the Roadshow across the country in 2024, building new relationships, connecting with new markets, and expanding her customer base and business opportunities. These stories remind us of what is possible when entrepreneurs are given the support, tools, and opportunities they need to succeed.

Their success is Belize's success, and there are many more stories like theirs in every district and community across our country. To every entrepreneur gathered here today, I want you to know that your Government believes in you.

We believe in your ideas. We believe in your determination. We believe in your ability to create opportunities not only for yourselves, but for your families, your communities, and our nation.

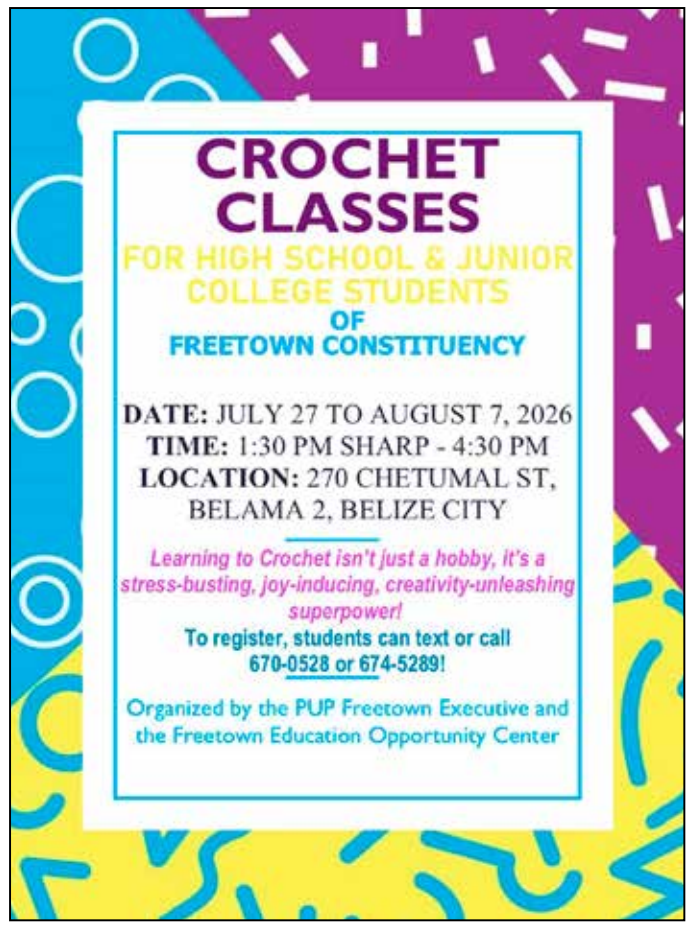
The future of Belize will not be built by Government alone. It will be built by entrepreneurs who dare to dream, who are willing to take risks, and who persevere in the face of challenges. Together, we can build a Belize where opportunity reaches every district, every municipality, every village, and every citizen. Together, we can build a Belize that is more resilient, more competitive, and more prosperous than ever before. And together, we can ensure that every Belizean with an idea, a dream, and the determination to succeed has the opportunity to do so.

I therefore encourage each of you to take full advantage of this Roadshow. Learn. Network. Ask questions. Explore new opportunities. And continue believing in the power of your ideas.

It is now my distinct honour and privilege to officially declare the Third National MSME Roadshow open. May God bless all of you, may God bless our entrepreneurs and business community, and may God continue to bless our beloved Belize.

Thank you.

STEAM
Summer Camp
for girls!
DATE: JULY 6TH – 17TH
Open to girls in first form
Duration: 10 days of summer school
Daily Commitment: 3 hours per day
Time slots: 9:00 am-12:00 and 1:00-4:00p.m
Location: at your child's school
WHAT THE CAMP OFFERS:
Engaging, hands-on activities in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics)
Site visits to a STEAM facility
Guest visits by women in STEAM careers
Development of an innovation project
STEAM Festival at the end of the camp
Parents Register Your Daughter Now!
Fill the registration form on this link:
https://edc.surveycto.com/collect/belize_4IR_consent?caseid=
GPE
SKILLS 4
EDC.ORG
IDB


CROCHET CLASSES
FOR HIGH SCHOOL & JUNIOR COLLEGE STUDENTS
OF
FREETOWN CONSTITUENCY
DATE: JULY 27 TO AUGUST 7, 2026
TIME: 1:30 PM SHARP - 4:30 PM
LOCATION: 270 CHETUMAL ST, BELAMA 2, BELIZE CITY
Learning to Crochet isn't just a hobby, it's a stress-busting, joy-inducing, creativity-unleashing superpower!
To register, students can text or call 670-0528 or 674-5289!
Organized by the PUP Freetown Executive and the Freetown Education Opportunity Center

SUPER NATIONALS MAKE HISTORY

June 23, 2026 - The Inaugural Primary School Super Nationals 2026 concluded in Belize City after two exciting days of competition featuring the country's top primary and secondary school athletes in football, basketball, volleyball, and kids' athletics. Representing every corner of the country, the young athletes proudly wore their district colors as they competed.

More than 1000 student-athletes from across Belize proudly represented their districts, showcasing talent, discipline, and sportsmanship while competing for national honors.

Kaya Cattouse, Deputy Director of Programs at the National Sports Council, described the event as a major success. "The inaugural Super Nationals, held over two days in Belize City, saw the best student-athletes from across the country competing in four disciplines. It was definitely a success. We saw exceptional talent from all districts, and we are very proud of the product that we have here."

From the first whistle to the final event, participants displayed determination, discipline, and resilience. Athletes forged new friendships, learned valuable lessons in teamwork, and embraced the opportunity to compete against the nation's best. The atmosphere was filled with excitement as supporters cheered on their districts in pursuit of national honors.

Football Results

Male Division

1. Belize | 2. Orange Walk | 3. Toledo

Female Division

1. Cayo | 2. Corozal | 3. Stann Creek

Football MVPs: Male: Zayden Brown (Belize) | Female: Cindy Tillet (Cayo)

Basketball Results

Male Division

1. Belize | 2. Cayo | 3. Orange Walk

Female Division

1. Belize | 2. Stann Creek | 3. Cayo

Basketball MVPs: Male: JayPaul Torres | Female: Kenya Gillett

Volleyball Results

Male Division

1. Belize | 2. Cayo | 3. Toledo

Female Division

1. Cayo | 2. Belize | 3. Stann Creek

Volleyball MVPs: Male: Matthew Quan | Female: Martina Lopez

Kids' Athletics Results

District Standings

1. Cayo | 2. Toledo | 3. Corozal

District MVPs: Male: Keithon Frazer (Toledo) | Female: Sonnaejah Flowers (Belize)

Minister of State in the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Hon. Devin Daly, emphasized that the competition is about identifying and supporting future national athletes. *"In participating and competing, what we want to do as the Ministry of Youth and Sports is invest in our young people who are showing us that they want a better future. We have created a catalogue of student-athletes who are excelling in their disciplines, and we are trying to support them all the way through their educational journey."*

Hon. Daly explained that the event gathered valuable data on Belize's young sporting talent. Stating, *"It's about 420 student-athletes at the primary level and over 580 at the high school level. This is where the national team process starts and where district tournaments begin. We can now properly identify athletes and work alongside federations, coaches, and communities to develop them."*

The success of the inaugural competition was made possible through the support of coaches, parents, volunteers, officials, and district delegations who worked tirelessly to ensure the event's success.

The event was supported by the Belize Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association, the Ministry of Tourism, Youth, Sports, and Diaspora Relations, and The Jewel Sports Network.

With strong participation and impressive performances from every district, the inaugural Primary School Super Nationals has established itself as a significant addition to Belize's sporting calendar. More importantly, it highlighted the tremendous potential of Belize's young athletes while promoting unity, teamwork, and national pride.

The competition fittingly closes the 2025-2026 school year and graduation season, providing a memorable celebration of youth achievement and the future of Belizean sports.

#100Days of Blue Teddy Bear Campaign

DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

The **Blue Teddy Bear Campaign** warmly invites all church and faith-based organizations to stand together in faith and action for the children of our nation. By participating in the Day of Prayer for Children, your church can play a vital role in strengthening families, promoting positive parenting, and creating safer, more nurturing environments where every child can thrive.

We encourage your congregation to dedicate time for prayer, share messages of love and protection for children, and visibly support the Blue Teddy Bear Campaign as a symbol of care and commitment.

Together, let us unite our voices, our faith, and our actions to ensure that every child in Belize is protected, valued, and given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Join us in prayer on 27/28 June 2026

Support children and their families. Focus on:

- Prayers for children's protection
- Prayers for families and caregivers
- Prayers for vulnerable children
- Prayer for community responsibility
- Prayer for Hope and commitment
- Prayer for healing and renewal

For coordination and materials, please contact: office@ncfc.org.bz

Learn more about the campaign and how you can support. Scan for more:

LETTER TO THE Editor

Celebrating Our Young Graduates

Dear Editor,

I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to all our preschool and primary school graduates on reaching this important milestone. Your hard work, dedication, and perseverance have brought you to this moment, and you should be proud of all that you have accomplished.

As you continue on your educational journey, I wish you every success. The path ahead will be filled with new opportunities, experiences, and lessons. It may also bring challenges and obstacles that test your strength and determination. Remember that growth often comes through overcoming difficulties. Without fighting through challenges, you may never discover how strong and capable you truly are.

Stay focused on your goals, believe in yourselves, and never be afraid to ask for help when needed. Each challenge you face can become a stepping stone toward greater achievements.

To the graduates, your families, and your teachers, thank you for the effort and support that have made this success possible. May this accomplishment be the beginning of many more achievements in the years ahead.

Congratulations once again, and may your future be filled with learning, success, and endless possibilities.

Sincerely,

K. Smith

LETTER TO THE Editor

Withered Ideas

Dear Editor,

I am tired of hearing Gapi's MPR land grabber. Every minute he goes on TV given time by news needy media. He spits bile at anything that the transparent government allows.

Yes, I said that. The PUPs weakness is that they are so transparent that the rogue UDP public servants are looking for any sign of spending to squeal. Governments spend drrr…..

I agree that whenever there are red flags it must be questioned. But the fact that you can see things doesn't mean that it is automatically corrupt. Flowers the PS minority president barks at everything.

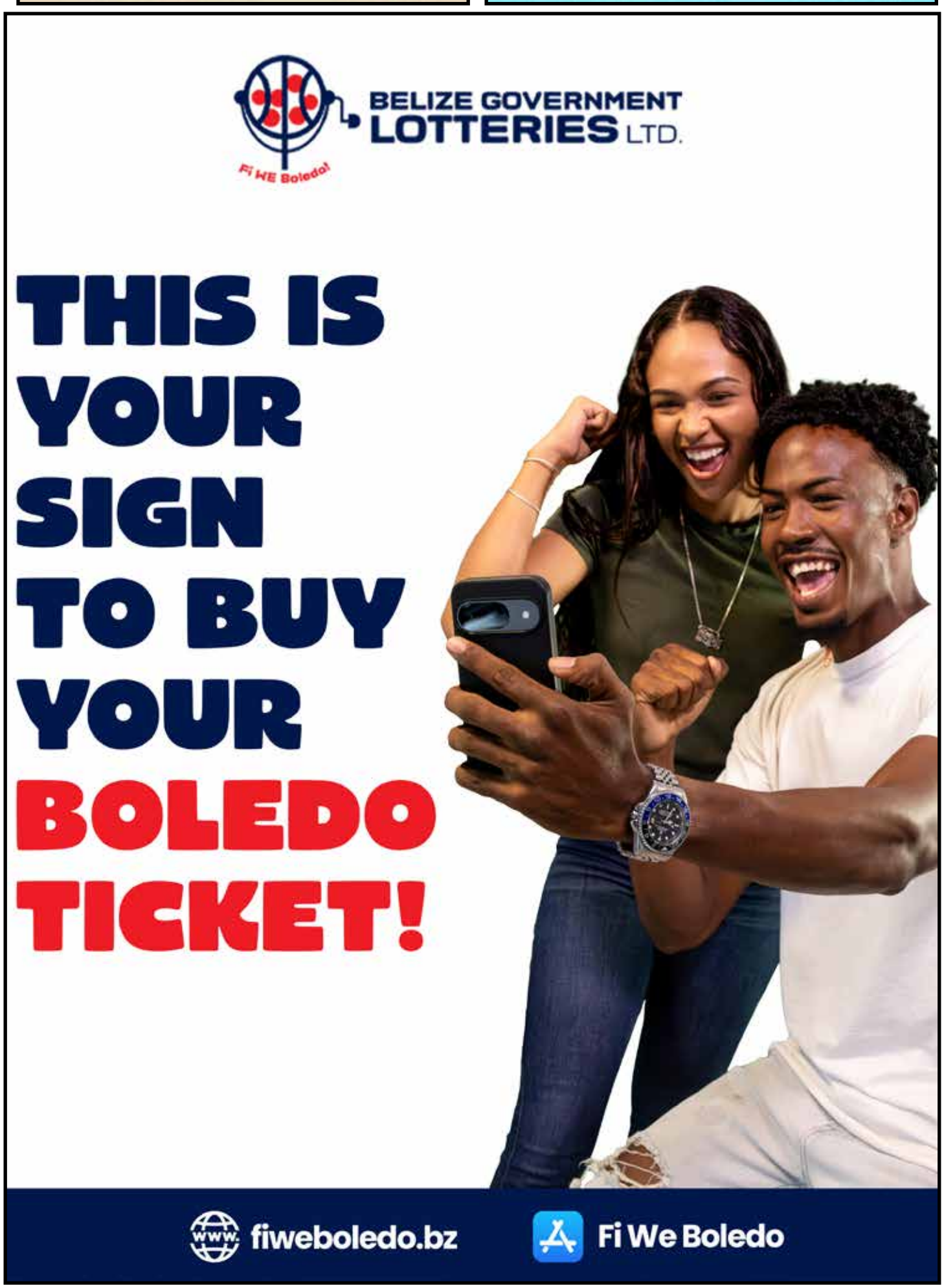
Where was he during Hill Bank? What is he doing for people that want their Trust money?

Belize needs to know this:

Let me say this Editor, Dean Flowers does NO WORK for the Public Service yet gets paid from the Public purse. Time for him to be let go. His UNION should pay him. The few members that vote for him can contribute to his pay if they wish. Or go to Gapi..... Flowers is a SUPER Minority leader. Google his PSU elections. Along the way you will bump on his land stories. Be Fair Flowers and do not just be another UDP. And I stand behind this opinion, you should do work and stop just looking for a 5-minute interview about nothing now and again for a FULL pay

Thanks,

PUP that Serves



One Hundred Seventy-Three Public Officers Honoured

25 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

June 25, 2026 - One hundred seventy-three (173) public officers from across the Government of Belize were honoured last evening during the 2026 Public Service Awards Ceremony in recognition of their remarkable milestone of 25 years of dedicated service to the nation.

The ceremony, hosted by the Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management as part of activities commemorating Public Service Week, celebrated the dedication, professionalism, and invaluable contributions of public officers who have devoted a quarter-century of service to the people of Belize. The event brought together senior government officials, public officers, family members, and invited guests to recognize and celebrate this significant achievement.

This year's observance of Public Service Week was held under the theme, "Transform Public Institutions: Advancing Innovation, Inclusion, and Participation." The theme underscores the vital role of public officers in driving innovation, fostering inclusive governance, and ensuring citizen participation in building stronger and more responsive public institutions.

The awardees, representing ministries and departments across the public service, have played an integral role in shaping and strengthening government institutions and improving the delivery of services to Belizeans. Through periods of growth, change, and national challenges, these officers have remained steadfast in their commitment to excellence and public service.

Awards were presented by Her Excellency Dame Froyla Tzalam, Governor General of Belize, and Hon. Henry Charles Usher, Minister of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management, who jointly paid tribute to the honourees for their years of dedicated and exemplary service.

In his remarks, Minister Usher commended the awardees for their unwavering commitment and emphasized that their experience, resilience, and institutional knowledge have been instrumental in advancing national development and strengthening the public service.

The Minister further noted that public officers remain the backbone of government and are central to the successful implementation of policies, programmes, and services that directly impact the lives of Belizeans. He emphasized that the Government remains committed to strengthening and modernizing the public service in keeping with the vision of Plan Belize, which calls for more innovative, inclusive, and people-centred institutions.

The Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management extends its heartfelt congratulations to all 173 award recipients and expresses its sincere appreciation for their exceptional service, dedication, and contributions to national development. Their collective achievements stand as a testament to the enduring spirit of public service and the indispensable role public officers play in building a stronger, more resilient Belize. (release)

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

The Central Bank of Belize (Central Bank), in accordance with Section 57 (1) of the Central Bank of Belize Act, Revised Edition 2020, intends to appoint an external auditor for the audit of its financial statements for the upcoming three-year cycle commencing January 1, 2027.

The Central Bank invites eligible public accounting firms licensed to practice in Belize to submit tenders comprising technical and financial proposals. To be considered for the award, firms must demonstrate previous experience in providing auditing services to medium or large size organizations.

Tenders must be submitted to the Central Bank and received no later than 4:00 p.m. on 7 August 2026.

Submissions must be made via email to:

Email address: internal.audit@centralbank.org.bz
Subject Line: "Firm Name" - Tender for Auditing Services

The Bank reserves the right to request additional information and to decline to accept any or all proposals.

For inquiries regarding the scope of work, please contact the Chief Internal Auditor, Central Bank of Belize, at phone number: (501) 223-6194 or email: internal.audit@centralbank.org.bz. A "Guideline for Audit Bidding" sheet will be provided upon request.

PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY
Queen Street, Belize City, Belize, C.A.
Tel: 677-9168
www.pup.org.bz

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

CLOSE OF MUNICIPAL APPLICATIONS

Friday, June 19, 2026 - The People's United Party informs of the closing of the window to accept applications for persons wishing to be considered to contest the March 3, 2027 Municipal Election.

At the 4 p.m. deadline, a total of one hundred and fifteen (115) applications were submitted, fifteen(15) for mayor and one hundred (100) for councillors across all nine municipalities.

The National Campaign Committee will now proceed with the vetting process for all applicants. This will be followed by a meeting of the National Executive where the final deliberation and decision of all applications will be made.

The Party will keep the general public informed as to the time, date and place of all conventions to elect or endorse our municipal slates.

ENDS

LETTER TO THE Editor

Empowering Belize Through MSMEs

Dear Editor,

The return of the National MSME Road Show for its third year is a welcome breath of air for entrepreneurs and small business owners across Belize. As a key component of the Government's Buy Belizean initiative, this nationwide campaign continues to provide practical support to the micro, small, and medium enterprises that form the backbone of our economy.

With ten locations and twenty-seven days dedicated to training, business formalization, access to finance, and market opportunities, the Road Show demonstrates a clear commitment to helping Belizean businesses grow, compete, and succeed. For many entrepreneurs, particularly those in underserved communities, these resources can be the difference between remaining informal and building a sustainable enterprise.

Beyond individual business success, initiatives like this strengthen local supply chains, encourage innovation, create employment opportunities, and keep more economic activity within Belize. By equipping business owners with the tools and knowledge they need, the Road Show helps to create a more resilient and inclusive economy.

The continued investment in MSME development sends a strong message that local businesses "you matter." As more entrepreneurs take advantage of these opportunities, the benefits will extend far beyond the participants themselves, contributing to stronger communities and a more prosperous future for Belize.

The success of the National MSME Road Show is ultimately a win for all Belizean businesses and for the continued growth of our national economy.

Sincerely,
E.Ferguson

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

*** Fourth Offer ***

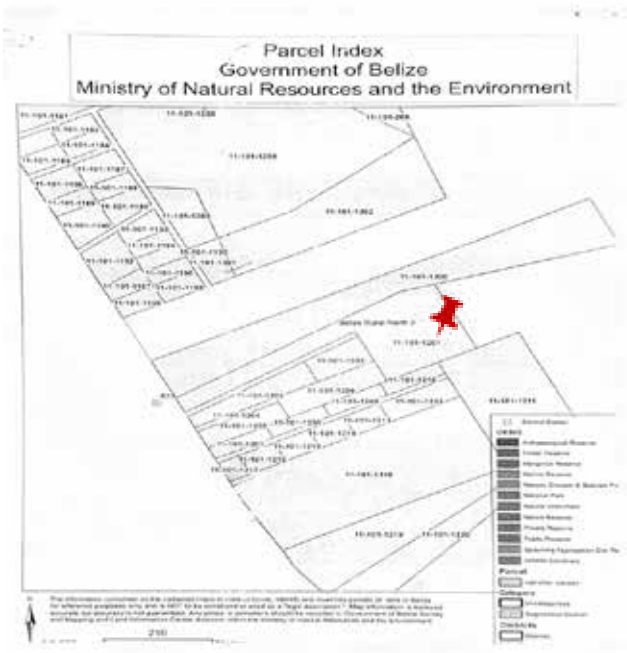
BY ORDER OF THE CHARGEE HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED, a Licensed Public Auctioneer will sell on site the following property at the time as listed.

At Parcel 1201 Biscayne Village, Belize District on Friday, July 3, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land comprising 5.323 Hectare(s) being Parcel 1201, Block 11 in the Belize Rural North II Registration Section situate in the Biscayne Village, Belize District, Belize TOGETHER with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **JING FENG LEE**.

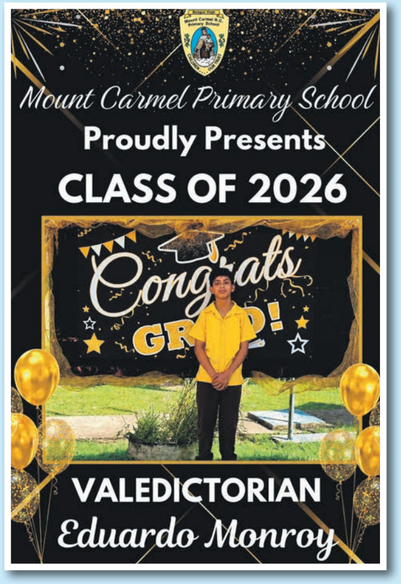
DATED this 15th day of June 2026



All sales are strictly cash and deemed final. For more information contact:

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED
1 HYDE'S LANE, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
Phone: (501) 280-5644
Fax: (501) 223-0738
E-mail: foreclosures@hrcubelize.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/hrcuforeclosure/

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026



Muffles College

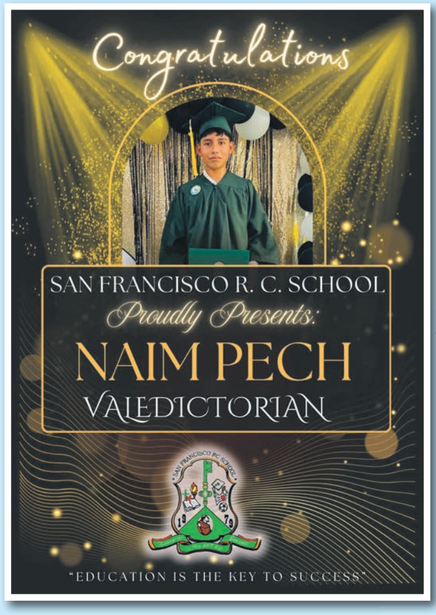
Placencia Elementary Ltd.

Mary Hill RCS Pre

Ecumenical Junior College

Mary Hill RC PS

Bishop Martin HS



Our Lady of Guadalupe RC Primary

Independence High School

Gulisi Community Primary School

Holy Family RC PS

OLOG RC HS

San Isidro Government School (Pre)

OLOG RC Primary

Belize High School of Agriculture

SJCJC

Belize Bible College

Centro Escolar Mexico JC

Julian Cho Technical HS

Georgetown Technical HS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for Licence under Electricity Act

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS LIMITED, ORANGE WALK, hereby serves notice to the general public that it has applied for ***LICENSE TYPE SOLE SOURCED IPP TO A PARTICULAR PERSON*** from the **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (PUC)** to operate a ***Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) CAPABLE OF DELIVERING FIRM AND DISPATCHABLE POWER*** *OF* **15 Megawatt**s with an up to ***160,000 kilowatt hours*** energy storage system, pursuant to Section 14 (3) of the Belize Electricity Act, and, Regulation 15 of the Electricity Licensing and Consent Regulations, 2026, a copy of the application is published below:

Public Utilities Commission
Application for Licence under Electricity Act

Application on behalf of:	***Sustainable Energy Solutions Limited***
Certificate of Incorporation Number (as per Laws of Belize):	**Registration Number 000044426**
Purpose of Licence:	***To operate a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a storage capacity of up to 160,000 kWh and 15,000 kW grid connected capacity for the purpose of providing firm and dispatchable power to the electrical grid at a 0.25C discharge rate.***
Authorized Area of Supply requested:	***18° 0'9.13", -88°34'11.42"***
Address:	***Tower Hill, Block: 4, Parcel: 651***
Generation Facilities:	***17 MWp of Solar PV for every 80 MWh of Battery Energy Storage (BESS), and with a grid connected power capacity of 15 MW***
Transmission Facilities:	***5 km of 34.5 kV transmission line interconnecting the facility with the BELCOGEN Substation, routed primarily parallel to the Main Highway.***
Contact Information:	***Name: Yolani Vanessa Garmendia*** ***Position/Title: Company Legal Representative*** ***Phone Number: +501 669-7738*** ***Email Address: sesl.projects@outlook.com***
Name of Signatory: (**Applicant/Representative**)	***Sustainable Energy Solutions Limited***
Declaration:	

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is true to best of my knowledge, information belief:

Signature: Yolani _____ **Date:** 23/06/2026

Applicant/Representative **DD/MM/YYYY**

Integrity, Experience, & Public Service

A Response to Recent Questions Regarding Zoe Zetina

--Contributed--

The article published on page 3 of June 21, 2026 in the Guardian Newspaper appears less concerned with the qualifications of Mrs. Zoe Zetina than with creating a political narrative designed to embarrass the Government. It is important that the public be presented with facts rather than insinuations.

Mrs. Zetina has served on the Integrity Commission for approximately six years, including during the tenure of the previous administration. Her appointment is therefore not a sudden or unprecedented political decision. During that period, she has contributed meaningfully to the work of the Commission and has demonstrated professionalism, competence, and commitment to its mandate.

In addition to her academic qualifications, Mrs. Zetina brings extensive practical experience acquired through years of public service and leadership. Those of us who have had the opportunity to serve alongside her can attest to the value of her contributions. Experience, knowledge, and dedication are qualities that should be recognized rather than dismissed for political convenience.

The article attempts to draw a connection between concerns raised regarding BAHA and Mrs. Zetina's suitability to serve on the Integrity Commission. However, the public should recognize that questions regarding access to records involve institutional processes and governance matters that are distinct from the personal integrity, competence, and service record of an individual commissioner. To suggest otherwise is to substitute innuendo for evidence.

Equally troubling is the effort to introduce her husband's previous political involvement into the discussion, as though public service should somehow be denied to family members of persons who have participated in the democratic process. Such reasoning is neither fair nor consistent with the principles of good governance.

I have no hesitation in supporting Mrs. Zetina, and I remain fully confident in her ability to discharge her responsibilities as a member of the Integrity Commission. My experience working with her has reinforced my respect for her professionalism, integrity, and dedication to public service.

Using her appointment as a vehicle for political mileage is a cheap and unconvincing political maneuver. Oversight institutions should be strengthened through facts, evidence, and constructive criticism, not by attempting to discredit individuals through guilt by association or unsupported speculation.

I therefore unapologetically reiterate my faith in Mrs. Zoe Zetina and in the valuable service she continues to provide to the Integrity Commission and to the people of Belize.

NATIONAL MSME ROADSHOW
2026
SCAN TO REGISTER
TURNING SMALL BUSINESSES INTO BIG POSSIBILITIES
DAY 1
MASTERCLASSES & TOWN HALL
LEARN CONNECT GROW
DAY 2
FORMALIZATION CLINIC & ACCESS TO FINANCE
GET REGISTERED GET FUNDED
DAY 3
BUYBELIZEAN EXPO
SHOWCASE SELL SUCCEED
ROADSHOW SCHEDULE
San Ignacio & Santa Elena June 25, 26, 27
Benque Viejo Town July 2, 3, 4
Orange Walk Town July 9, 10, 11
Corozal Town July 16, 17, 18
Punta Gorda Town July 30, 31, & August 1
Dangriga Town August 6, 7, 8
Belize City August 12, 13, 15
San Pedro August 20, 21, 22
Caye Caulker August 20, 21, 22
Belmopan City August 27, 28, 29
PM
Beltraide
BELIZE ENTRECON
DIBED
IDB

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Internal Audit Department.

The Senior Administrative Assistant supports the Manager's office and the respective department by ensuring effective communication and efficient operation of priority matters. The role optimizes the Manager's time through planning, scheduling, and monitoring of departmental responsibilities.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Receive, screen, and prioritize telephone calls, emails, and other correspondence directed to the Manager's office.
- Respond to correspondence in accordance with established guidelines and draft correspondence for the Manager's review and signature.
- Support the Manager and department with daily, weekly, and monthly planning to ensure all matters are addressed in a timely manner.
- Develop and maintain effective follow-up systems to monitor the implementation of the Manager's directives, decisions, and requests within agreed timelines.
- Follow up on time-sensitive issues and keep the Manager advised of their status.
- Coordinate the Manager's and department's participation in domestic and international meetings, conferences, and events, including securing agendas and preparing required documentation.
- Maintain Manager's office and departmental records in accordance with established guidelines, ensuring highest level of confidentiality.
- Manage stationery and office supplies to maintain adequate inventory levels and ensure timely distribution.
- Plan and execute assigned projects and events, including management retreats and regional activities coordinated from the Manager's office.
- Prepare, reconcile, and file weekly and monthly leave and attendance reports for departmental personnel.
- Perform other duties as required to support the department's functions.

The applicant should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A preferred qualification of an associate's degree in business administration, or a related field from a recognized tertiary institution, with at least three (3) years of relevant experience; Possession of an Advanced (Executive) Administrative Professional Certificate will be considered a strong asset.
- A minimum qualification of an associate's degree in business administration, or a related field from a recognized tertiary institution, with at least two (2) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of office administration and confidentiality standards; Strong communication (oral and written), customer service and relation-building skills; Project management skills; Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Initiative, Interpersonal Relations, Organizational Ability, Analytical Ability, Communication, Customer Focus, Job Knowledge, Quality of Output, Deportment, Problem Solving/Judgement.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 8 July 2026**:

- Central Bank Employment Form (available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates
- Two (2) current references (at least one must be from a previous or current employer)

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Senior Administrative Assistant- Internal Audit Department

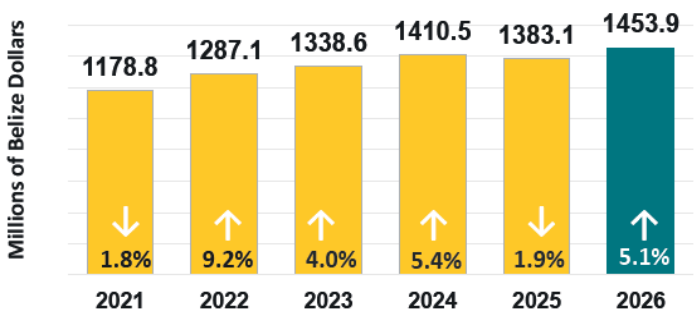
Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

1st Quarter of 2026 Economy Grows 5.1%

Belize Shows Improved Performance Across All Sectors

FIRST QUARTER 2026:

Figure 1: First Quarter Gross Domestic Product at Constant Prices; 2021 - 2026



Source: Statistical Institute of Belize

The Statistical Institute of Belize's preliminary Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates for the first quarter months of January to March 2026 indicated that the value of goods and services produced within the country for that period totalled $1.454 billion. This was an increase of $70.8 million or 5.1 percent, when compared to the $1.383 billion produced during the first quarter of 2025 (see Figure 1).

Economic growth was fuelled by expansion in all three sectors, with agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and service-related industries making significant contributions throughout the quarter. Furthermore, 'Taxes on Products' increased by 12.3 percent, from $168.9 million in the first quarter of 2025 to $189.6 million in the first quarter of 2026.

Cattle output increased by a notable 13.5 percent, from 12.4 thousand heads to 14.1 thousand heads, while poultry production increased by 2.2 percent. Pig production, on the other hand, declined by 9.3 percent, from 11.0 thousand heads to 9.9 thousand heads. Petroleum extraction was down by a marginal 0.2 percent, from 35.7 thousand barrels in the first quarter of last year to 35.6 thousand barrels in the first quarter of this year.

PRIMARY ACTIVITIES:

For the period January to March 2026, goods produced by the primary sector were valued at an estimated $145.8 million, representing an increase of $7.0 million, or 5.0 percent, from $138.8 million recorded during the same period in 2025 (see Figure 2).

This growth in primary sector activity was driven by increased production of bananas, sugarcane and citrus, along with greater marine and cattle outputs. Banana production rose by 5.5 percent, from 21.7 thousand metric tons during the first quarter of 2025 to 22.8 thousand metric tons in the first quarter of 2026 (see Figure 3). Sugarcane and citrus also recorded improved performances, rising by 7.4 percent and 2.4 percent, respectively, during the quarter. The fishing industry grew by 32.2 percent, driven mostly by gains in shrimp, lobster tail, lobster meat, and whole fish exports.

SECONDARY ACTIVITIES:

The secondary sector expanded by 8.3 percent or $15.4 million, from $184.9 million in the first quarter of 2025 to $200.3 million in the first quarter of 2026, owing mostly to increases in 'Construction' and 'Manufacturing'.

The 'Construction' industry grew by 15.7 percent, from $67.9 million to $78.5 million, as reflected in higher imports of construction materials and an increase in loans for building and construction during the quarter. Water consumption also rose by 4.3 percent, from 741.6 million gallons in the first quarter of 2025 to 773.2 million gallons during the same period of 2026.

Furthermore, 'Manufacturing' activities were up by 8.1 percent, the result of a 13.6 percent increase in beverage manufacturing as well as stronger performances in the agro-processing industries, driven by improved agricultural production in the primary sector. In contrast, electricity generation fell by 22.1 percent, from 88.7 thousand megawatt hours to 69.1 thousand megawatt hours, due to lower rainfall levels at the hydroelectric facilities and a decrease in biomass generation.

TERTIARY ACTIVITIES:

The tertiary sector, which accounts for almost two-thirds of the country's economy, was the largest contributor to economic growth for the period. Production within this sector totaled $918.2 million in the first quarter of 2026, up 3.1 percent or $27.6 million from $890.6 million in the first quarter of 2025 (see Figure 2).

Increased output was primarily driven by strong performance within the 'Wholesale and Retail Trade' industry, which grew by 9.7 percent during the first quarter. 'Financial and Insurance Activities', which expanded by 14.8 percent, from $115.2 million in the first quarter of last year to $132.2 million in the first quarter of this year, was another key driver within the tertiary sector. This was reflected in increases in the volume stock of loans and deposits, as well as revenues from insurance policies.

Outputs by 'Producers of Government Services' rose by 2.5 percent, from $92.8 million to $95.1 million, due to an increase in government employment and higher public expenditures. The 'Accommodation and Food Services' industry grew by 1.6 percent, the result of a small increase in overnight tourist arrivals. Overnight visitors rose by 2.1 percent, from 183.4 thousand visitors in the first quarter of 2025 to 187.3 thousand visitors in the first quarter of 2026. These were sufficient to offset a 2.7 percent reduction in cruise passenger arrivals, from 398.3 thousand visitors during the first three months of last year to 387.7 thousand visitors in the first three months of this year. (SIB DATA, for more visit sib.org.bz)

CABEI
Central American Bank for Economic Integration

Invitation to Bid
Construction and Equipment of Santa Elena Police Station and Kitchen
N. º CABEI-WKS-001-2147/2026
One Stage-One Envelope

Date: June 19, 2026

1. SOURCE OF RESOURCES

The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), as part of the services it provides to its beneficiary partner countries, is granting total financing for the Procurement for the Construction and Equipment of Santa Elena Police Station and Kitchen, within the framework of the Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP).

2. EXECUTING AGENCY AND CONTRACTING PARTY OF THE BIDDING PROCESS

2.1 The Ministry of Economic Transformation (MET) as the Executing Agency of the Contracting Party, intends to use a portion of the funds of this financing to make eligible payments under the Contract for which this Invitation to Bid is being issued.

2.2 The Belize Integral Security Programme, is responsible for the present Procurement Process for which it invites eligible construction companies to submit bids for this procurement in a sealed envelope.

2.3 The Contractor will be selected through international competition in accordance with the procedures of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration as established in the Procurement Policy for Procurement of Goods, Works, Services and Consultancies with CABEI resources and its Regulations, which can be found on the following web site: https://www.bcie.org.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

3.1 General Objectives of the Procurement is for the Construction and Equipment of Santa Elena Police Station and Kitchen in the Cayo District.

3.2 The Contracting Party makes available to interested parties all the documentation related to this Procurement necessary for the preparation of bids.

Such information will be available free of charge:

a. Bidding package can be requested from the Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP), Project Executing Unit, 1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor, Unit # 3, Belmopan City, at: santaelena_wks001.bisp@met.gov.bz and copy: projectcoordinator.bisp@met.gov.bz and projectengineer.bisp@met.gov.bz and adminassistant.bisp@met.gov.bz

3.3 **Bids must be submitted to the address indicated below no later than 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday August 5, 2026.**

Electronic submission of bids **will not be** permitted. No late bids will be accepted.

Bids shall be opened publicly, in the presence of the representatives designated by the Bidder and any person who decides to attend, at the address listed below on August 5, 2026, at 10:15 a. m.

3.4 All Bids must be accompanied by a ***"Bid Maintenance Declaration".***

The address mentioned above is:

Project Coordinator
Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP)
Programme Executing Unit
1904 Constitution Drive 2nd, Floor, Unit #3
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.

Belize Human Resources Health Policy& Strategic Plan 2026-2030 Remarks at Launch Minister Kevin Bernard

Thursday, June 25, 2026 | Grand Resort & Residencies, Belize City

His Excellency Amino Chi, Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Belize; Dr. Julio Sabido, Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of Health and Wellness; Dr. Karen Lewis-Bell, PAHO/WHO Representative in Belize; Dr Camilo Pecha, IDB Country Economist; Representatives of government ministries, development partners, professional councils and associations, academia, the private sector, and civil society; Directors, Deputy Directors, regional management teams, health professionals, colleagues, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen: Good morning. I am pleased to join you today for the launch of the Belize Human Resources for Health Policy and Strategic Plan 2026-2030.

Over the past few years, we have spent considerable time discussing how we strengthen Belize's health system for the future. We have focused on infrastructure, equipment, digital health, service delivery, public health, and financing. These are all critical areas of investment. Yet, at the center of every discussion about the future of health in Belize, one theme remains: our health workforce. At the end of the day, healthcare is delivered by people. When a mother brings her child to a clinic, when a patient arrives at an emergency room, when a community faces an outbreak, or when an older adult requires ongoing care, it is a health worker who responds. That is why today's launch is so important.

Last year, we launched the Belize Health Sector Strategic Plan 2025-2034, our roadmap for building a stronger, more equitable, resilient, and people-centered health system. One of the priorities identified in that plan was the need to strengthen our health workforce. The policy and strategic plan we launch today are a direct response to that priority and represent another important step in implementing our broader vision for the health sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic reinforced something many of us already knew, but perhaps did not fully appreciate until our health system was tested. During those difficult years, our physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, laboratory staff, community health workers, public health practitioners, and support personnel carried an enormous responsibility. They worked long hours, adapted quickly to changing circumstances, and continued providing care under significant pressure. Their efforts helped our country navigate one of the most challenging periods in recent history. The pandemic also exposed vulnerabilities that countries around the world continue to grapple with today, including shortages of health workers and increasing competition for skilled professionals. Belize is not immune to these challenges.

While we have made significant progress in developing our health workforce, we know there is still work to be done. Currently, Belize has approximately 612 physicians and 983 nurses, representing about 14.7 physicians and 23.5 nurses per 10,000 population. Combined, this places Belize at approximately 38.2 physicians, nurses, and midwives per 10,000 population. Although this represents important progress, it remains below the World Health Organization's recommended threshold of 44.5 physicians, nurses, and midwives per 10,000 population needed to support universal health coverage. At the same time, we recognize that strengthening the health workforce is not only about increasing numbers. It is also about ensuring that health workers are equitably distributed across the country, that communities have access to the services they need, and that we have the right mix of skills and specialties to meet the evolving health needs of our population.

Beyond these numbers, Belize faces another challenge shared by many small developing states. Larger countries continue to recruit health professionals from around the world, including from countries like ours. The migration of skilled health workers presents a real challenge for health systems that already face workforce shortages and limited training capacity.

As a Government, we recognize this challenge and have taken deliberate steps to address it. In recent years, we have introduced a series of retention measures aimed at supporting our nursing workforce and improving workforce stability. These measures include increases in remuneration and a number of allowances to support our health workers. While no single intervention will solve the issue, these investments send an important message: we value our health workers, and we are committed to supporting them. We have also strengthened scholarship and bond compliance mechanisms to help ensure that individuals who benefit from public investment in their training return to serve the Belizean people. These efforts are beginning to show positive results, and they form part of a broader strategy to strengthen recruitment, retention, workforce planning, education, and professional development.

The Human Resources for Health Policy and Strategic Plan provide a framework to guide this work over the next five years. They establish a clear direction for addressing workforce challenges while preparing Belize for future needs. The Policy is built around four priority actions that reflect the areas where Belize must continue to strengthen its health workforce. These include strengthening governance and regulatory frameworks, improving recruitment and deployment, expanding education and training opportunities, and enhancing the attraction, motivation, and retention of health professionals. Importantly, these priorities do not remain at the policy level. Each policy priority action is translated into a corresponding strategic objective within the Human Resources for Health Strategic Plan, ensuring that the commitments outlined in the Policy are supported by concrete actions, measurable targets, and a clear implementation pathway over the next five years.

The success of these documents will depend on our ability to work together across government, educational institutions, professional councils, development partners, and the health workforce itself. It will require sustained investment, continued dialogue, and a shared commitment to the future of healthcare in Belize. I am confident in this work because Belize has already demonstrated what is possible when we work together toward a common goal. The progress we have made across the health sector in recent years did not happen by chance. It happened because of commitment, partnership, and the dedication of thousands of health workers serving throughout our country.

As Minister of Health and Wellness, I remain committed to ensuring that our health workforce remains at the center of our efforts as we continue strengthening the health system. The future of healthcare in Belize depends on the people who deliver it every day.

To our health workers, thank you for your service…To our partners, thank you for your continued support…And to all those involved in developing these important documents, thank you for helping us build a stronger foundation for the future.

I look forward to working with all of you as we move from planning to implementation and continue building a health system that serves every Belizean with quality, dignity, and compassion.

Thank you, and may God bless Belize.

FIVE KEYS
TO SAFER FOOD
KEEP CLEAN
• Wash your hands before handling food and often during food preparation.
• Wash your hands after going to the toilet.
• Wash and sanitize all surfaces and equipment used for food preparation.
• Protect food from insects and other animals.
USE SAFE WATER AND RAW MATERIALS
• Use safer water or treat it to make it safe.
• Select fresh and wholesome foods.
• Wash fruits and vegetables, especially if eaten raw.
• Choose foods processed for safety, such as pasteurized milk.
SEPARATE RAW AND COOKED
• Use separate equipment and utensils such as knives and cutting boards to handling meat, poultry, seafood, and other raw foods.
• Store raw and prepared foods in separate containers.
COOK THOROUGHLY
• Cook food thoroughly, especially meat, poultry, eggs and seafood.
• Bring foods like soups and stews to boiling to make sure that they have reached 70°C (158°F).
• Reheat cooked food thoroughly.
70°C
KEEP FOOD AT SAFE TEMPERATURES
• Do not leave cooked food at room temperature for more than 2 hours.
• Refrigate promptly all cooked and perishable food (preferably below 5°C (41°F)).
• Keep cooked food piping hot (more than 60°C (140°F)).
• Do not thaw frozen food at room temperature.
60°C
5°C
DANGER ZONE
PAHO
Pan American Health Organization
World Health Organization
Americas

BELIZE ATTENDS

THE UN's HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON HIV/AIDS

CALLS FOR RENEWED GLOBAL COMMITMENT TO END AIDS BY 2030

MINISTRY OF E-GOVERNANCE
The Ministry of E-Governance has a New Official Website
Please visit us at
www. egov.gov.bz
NATIONAL DIGITAL AGENDA 2022 - 2025
Our previous site:
www.digitalagenda.gov.bz
is no longer in use

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026

- New York, USA

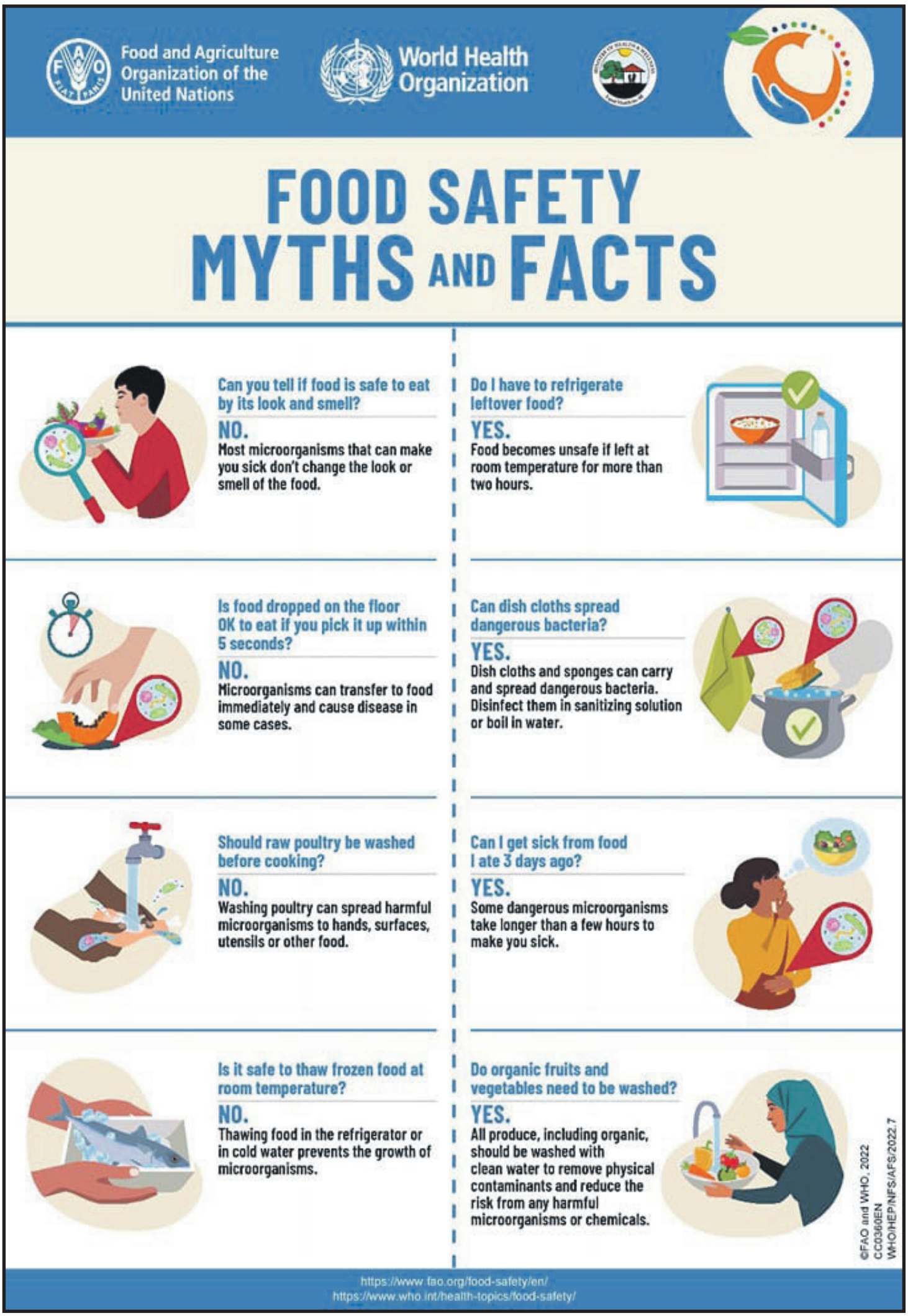
– Hon. Dolores Balderamos-Garcia, Senior Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister and Chairperson of The National AIDS Commission of Belize, delivered the CARICOM statement at the 2026 United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS, held at United Nations Headquarters on June 22–23, 2026.

Since 2010, the Caribbean has reduced AIDS-related deaths by 62 percent and new HIV infections by 21 percent, while thirteen countries have achieved validation for the elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and/or syphilis. Despite these gains, the region continues to face one of the highest HIV prevalence rates outside of sub-Saharan Africa, with stigma, discrimination, social exclusion, and financing challenges remaining significant barriers.

Calling for renewed global action, Minister Balderamos-Garcia emphasized, "*The world stands at a crossroads. The tools to end AIDS exist. The science is stronger than ever*. What is needed now is the political will, financing, and solidarity to turn opportunity into impact."

At the end of the High-Level Meeting the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: United to End AIDS by 2030 was adopted, and the commitment was reaffirmed to work alongside Member States, communities, civil society, the United Nations system, and development partners to build a future where HIV is no longer a public health threat and where all people can live with dignity, equality, and hope.

The Belize delegation included Mr. Enrique Romero, Executive Director of the National AIDS Commission of Belize. (Release)


Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
World Health Organization
FOOD SAFETY
MYTHS AND FACTS
Can you tell if food is safe to eat by its look and smell?
NO.
Most microorganisms that can make you sick don't change the look or smell of the food.
Do I have to refrigerate leftover food?
YES.
Food becomes unsafe if left at room temperature for more than two hours.
Is food dropped on the floor OK to eat if you pick it up within 5 seconds?
NO.
Microorganisms can transfer to food immediately and cause disease in some cases.
Can dish cloths spread dangerous bacteria?
YES.
Dish cloths and sponges can carry and spread dangerous bacteria. Disinfect them in sanitizing solution or boil in water.
Should raw poultry be washed before cooking?
NO.
Washing poultry can spread harmful microorganisms to hands, surfaces, utensils or other food.
Can I get sick from food I ate 3 days ago?
YES.
Some dangerous microorganisms take longer than a few hours to make you sick.
Is it safe to thaw frozen food at room temperature?
NO.
Thawing food in the refrigerator or in cold water prevents the growth of microorganisms.
Do organic fruits and vegetables need to be washed?
YES.
All produce, including organic, should be washed with clean water to remove physical contaminants and reduce the risk from any harmful microorganisms or chemicals.
©FAO and WHO, 2022
CC0360EN
WHO/HEP/NFS/AFS/2022.7
https://www.fao.org/food-safety/en/
https://www.who.int/health-topics/food-safety/

Belize To Assume in July Regional Migration Presidency

SICA - Commission of Migration Authorities

June 22, 2026 - Belize will assume the Pro Tempore Presidency of the Commission of Migration Authorities of the Member Countries of the Central American Integration System on July 1, placing the country in a regional leadership role on migration governance, border management and humanitarian mobility.

The Department of Border Management and Immigration Services accepted the transfer of the presidency on June 11 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, through the representation of its Director, Mr. Lawrence Thompson. The presidency will run for six months and end on December 31, 2026.

The Commission of Migration Authorities, known as OCAM, is the principal regional forum for cooperation and coordination among migration authorities within the SICA region. As Pro Tempore President, Belize will be responsible for providing leadership and strategic direction for regional migration initiatives, strengthening cooperation among Member States and supporting the implementation of the OCAM Strategic Plan 2025 to 2030.

Belize's presidency will be guided by the theme, "Advancing Smart Border Management and Regional Information Sharing for Secure, Humane, and Efficient Mobility."

Director Thompson said the role gives Belize an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in migration governance, border management modernization, regional security cooperation and humanitarian migration management.

"Our focus will be on strengthening cooperation, improving information sharing and advancing practical systems that support safe, secure, humane and efficient mobility across the region," Thompson said.

The presidency will focus on three strategic priority areas: modernization through digital interoperability, regional security through integrated border management, and human rights and humanitarian border management.

The Department said the role also provides a platform to advance priorities outlined in the DBMIS Strategic Outlook, including digital transformation, intelligence led and risk based border management, capacity building, information sharing and operational modernization.

A DBMIS OCAM Presidency Steering Committee will be established to coordinate activities, monitor implementation, engage stakeholders, prepare reports and support the delivery of outcomes aligned with both the OCAM Strategic Plan and the strategic objectives of DBMIS.

Port Commanders are expected to support the presidency through operational insights, participation in technical working group meetings, data collection, reporting and implementation of activities linked to the presidency's priorities.

The Department thanked Port Commanders and frontline officers for their dedication and service, saying their work had contributed to Belize being entrusted with the regional leadership role.

The Department of Border Management and Immigration Services is an integral part of the Ministry of Immigration, Governance and Labour. Further information on the Steering Committee, working groups and planned activities is expected to be shared in the coming weeks.

INVITATION TO BID

INSTITUTION: MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Tender: Procurement of Solid Waste Transfer Stations and Regional Sanitary Landfill Services (LOT-Based)

The Government of Belize, acting through the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Solid Waste Management, invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified service providers for the provision of **Loading, Hauling, Transfer, Disposal and Associated Solid Waste Management Services (Transfer Stations), and the Spreading, Compacting, Covering, and Other Heavy Equipment Services (Regional Sanitary Landfill Facility)** under a LOT-based procurement arrangement.

Lot No.	Facility	Type	Contract Period
Lot 1	Belize City Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 2	Burrell Boom Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 3	Belmopan Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 4	San Ignacio / Santa Elena Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 5	Dangriga Solid Waste Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 months
Lot 6	Orange Walk Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 Months
Lot 7	Corozal Transfer Station	Transfer Station	36 Months
Lot 8	Regional Sanitary Landfill – Mile 24, George Price Highway	Landfill	36 Months

GENERAL INFORMATION:

a. **Bidders may submit bids for one, several, or all lots**. Evaluation and award will be conducted **per lot.** Subject to demonstrated capacity to deliver, the Employer may award multiple Lots to a single Bidder.
b. This invitation is open to all eligible and qualified Bidders.
c. Qualification requirements are provided in Section II of the Bidding Documents. Prospective Bidders' attention is drawn to the Instructions to Bidders in the Bidding Documents.
d. The complete Bidding Document in English may be obtained by interested Bidders by way of email application to the email addresses below:
Procurement Unit – MSDCCSWM, procurement.officer@environment.gov.bz with CC to procurement.asst@environment.gov.bz
e. The Bidding Documents will be emailed to the Bidder at the email address specified in the email application.
f. A Site Presentation & Q&A will occur on the 8th of July 2026 at the Green Building Complex, 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan City, at 10:00a.m.
g. Bids must be delivered to the address indicated in the bidding document at or before **10:00 a.m**. on **July 17th, 2026.** Electronic bidding **shall not be permitted**. Late bids **will be rejected**.
h. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Securing Declaration** as specified in the Instructions to Bidders.

BELIZE ASSUMES

PRO TEMPORE PRESIDENCY AT 39TH ORDINARY MEETING OF CECC/SICA

"Advancing A Regional Agenda Focused On Educational Quality, Cultural Development, Innovation, And Collaboration"

Cultural leaders from across Central America and the Caribbean convened in the Dominican Republic on Tuesday, 16, 2026, for the 39th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Culture of the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination of the Central American Integration System (CECC/SICA).

Senior Cultural officials gathered from member countries, including Belize, to strengthen regional cooperation and to advance a common agenda aimed at cultural development, heritage preservation, and the growth of the creative industries. Other participating countries were Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama.

Dominican Culture Minister Robert Angel Salcedo welcomed the leaders, with Salcedo in his opening remarks, emphasising the importance of collaboration among nations to promote culture as a driver of sustainable development, regional integration, and social cohesion. The Dominican Culture Minister also highlighted the value of sharing experiences and developing joint solutions to address the common challenges facing the cultural sector.

Six priority areas were stipulated by each member states that were encompassed in the meeting's agenda. Included are protecting the rights of artists and cultural workers, safeguarding cultural heritage, improving the cultural data and statistics system, decentralising cultural management, dealing with digital rights and artificial intelligence in relation to copyright, and strengthening the cultural and creative industries.

Costa Rica's initiative to strengthen legal protection for cultural workers and the Dominican Republic's ART-SECURE project, seeking to support and protect artists and cultural managers were highlighted at the meeting. Additionally, the Dominican Republic presented proposals for greater regional cooperation in cultural innovation and engaged discussions regarding upcoming initiatives linked to the ibermedia Program and the XII Ibe-

ro-American Meeting of Museums.

Importantly, Hon Ramon Cervantes, Minister of Education, Culture, Science and Technology (MoECST), assumed the Pro Tempore Presidency for the next six months, which was formally transferred by Angel Hernandez, Minister of Education of the Dominican Republic (MINERD). In his acceptance remarks on behalf of the Government of Belize (GOB), Cervantes outlined Belize's key priorities for its presidency, emphasising the importance of ensuring that education reaches every learner, strengthening culture as a pillar of identity and national development. Additionally, advancing digital transformation that serves the people. Minister Cervantes also highlighted the Jewel's ongoing efforts in educational innovation, including Belize's experience with digitisation in education through the 501 Academy initiative.

Belize was also represented by Rolando Cocom, Director of the Institute for Social and Cultural Research (ISCR) within the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH), who participated in the discussions during the Council of Ministers of Culture Meeting. As per the GOB release, Ms Yolanda Gongora made a presentation engaging in exchanges aimed at strengthening educational programmes and regional cooperation. Noted, as Pro Tempore President, Belize will now lead and coordinate the implementation of the actions and agreements adopted by the Council of Ministers during its tenure of six months.

Belize's participation at the 39th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Culture of the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination of the Central American Integration System (CECC/SICA) underscores the country's commitment to regional partnerships and cooperation in the advancement of inclusive, equitable and transformative education and culture initiatives that benefit the Belizean people and the wider Central American region.

by Hilly Bennett

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

www.centralbank.org.bz

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Asked to Report Unlicensed or Unregistered Financial Activity

Belize City, 24 June 2026: The Central Bank of Belize (Central Bank) reminds the public that, in accordance with the Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act, International Banking Act, Credit Unions Act, Moneylenders Act, and National Payment System Act, persons are prohibited from carrying out certain financial activities without the requisite license or registration.

The public is reminded that it is illegal for an unlicensed or unregistered bank, credit union, moneylender (including pawnbroker), payment service provider (such as remittance service provider or E-wallet provider), or payment system operator to conduct or engage in financial transactions in or from within Belize.

Any person who conducts any of the above-listed services without holding a valid license or registration from the Central Bank commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to penalties under the relevant law.

The Central Bank, as industry regulator, remains committed to effective oversight of the financial system in service to the Belizean public and business community. If a member of the public encounters any such unlicensed or unregistered activities or operations, please make a report to:

Central Bank of Belize
Telephone: (501-223-6164)
Email: communications@centralbank.org.bz.

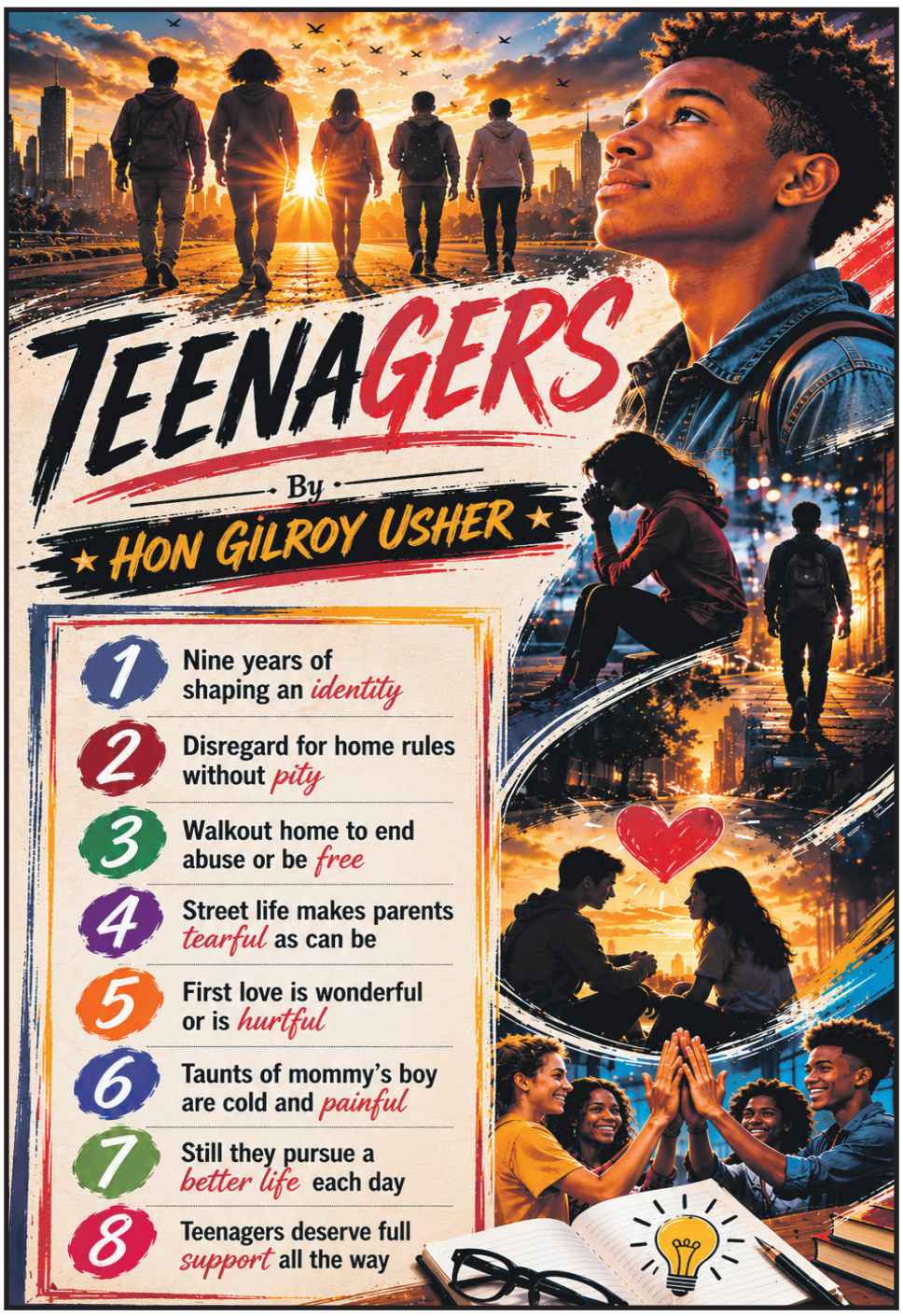
or

The Belize Police Department - Major Crimes Unit
Telephone: (501) 822-2222
Email: hncib@yahoo.com

-ENDS-

ISSUED BY:
THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

1 GABOUREL LANE
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
T: +501 223 6194


TEENAGERS
By
HON GILROY USHER
1 Nine years of shaping an identity
2 Disregard for home rules without pity
3 Walkout home to end abuse or be free
4 Street life makes parents tearful as can be
5 First love is wonderful or is hurtful
6 Taunts of mommy's boy are cold and painful
7 Still they pursue a better life each day
8 Teenagers deserve full support all the way

Resilient Bold Belize
GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: SAFEGUARDS AND GENDER OFFICER

Duty Station: Belize City

The Government of Belize, through the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP), invites applications for the position of Safeguards and Gender Officer under the Resilient Bold Belize (RBB) Project, part of the GEF Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program. The RBB Project supports the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems while promoting nature-based livelihoods and inclusive, people-centred conservation planning. The project is executed by the Government of Belize (BBFP) with WWF-GEF US serving as the GEF Agency.

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the GEF Project Manager, the Safeguards and Gender Officer will lead the implementation and monitoring of the project's Gender Action Plan (GAP), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The Officer will ensure that gender equality, social inclusion, and environmental and social safeguards are fully integrated across all project components and that community engagement is conducted in an inclusive, equitable, and culturally sensitive manner.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) and ensure gender mainstreaming across project activities
- Oversee compliance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
- Coordinate inclusive stakeholder consultations, including engagement with Indigenous and local communities
- Establish and manage the project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)
- Develop safeguard instruments (e.g., ESMPs, IPPs, LRPs) as required
- Support reporting, monitoring, and capacity building on safeguards and gender integration

Qualifications & Experience

- Bachelor's degree in Gender Studies, Social Sciences, Sustainable Development, or related field (advanced degree desirable).
- Minimum 3 years' experience in gender mainstreaming, social safeguards, and community engagement in Belize/Caribbean.
- Knowledge of safeguard frameworks, gender integration standards, and participatory planning.

Interested applicants may request a copy of the Full Terms of Reference by **e-mailing**: rbbpm.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz with the subject line **"Safeguards and Gender TOR."** Full TOR is also available on the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit's **Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages**.

Applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, July 3rd 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**
All applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview. The Committee will conduct due diligence to verify the information provided in the **detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)** and during the interview process.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING OFFICER - MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, PETROLEUM AND MINING

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project
Process ID: BZ-MFEDI - CEU-522977-CS-INDV
Duration: Twenty-Four (24) Months
Duty Station: Ministry of Natural Resources, Belmopan, Belize (In Office)
Deadline: **July 24, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the World Bank for the execution of the **"**Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project", being implemented by the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to engage the contractual services of a **"Community Development & Planning Officer under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Petroleum and Mining".**

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the full version of this Request for Application and Terms of Reference (TOR) at https://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
Sir Edney Cain Building, 2nd Floor, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Ref: Individual Consultancy – "CDP Officer" – Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project

Resilient Bold Belize
GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICER

Duty Station: Belize City

The Government of Belize, through the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit (BBFP), invites applications for the position of **Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge Management (MEK) Officer** under the **Resilient Bold Belize (RBB) Project**, part of the GEF Blue and Green Islands Integrated Program. The RBB Project supports the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems and promotes nature-based livelihoods through a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative led by BBFP. The project is executed by the Government of Belize (BBFP) with WWF-GEF US serving as the GEF Agency.

Position Summary

Under the supervision of the Project Manager, the MEK Officer will lead the implementation of the project's Monitoring, Evaluation and Knowledge Management systems. The Officer will ensure effective tracking of results, compliance with Government of Belize and WWF-GEF reporting requirements, and evidence-based adaptive management. The role includes maintaining the project Results Framework, overseeing work plan tracking, supporting Project Progress Reports, and strengthening partner monitoring systems across all project components.

Key Responsibilities:

- Implement and oversee the project's M&E Plan, Results Framework, and work plan tracking
- Monitor and analyse project performance data to support reporting and decision-making
- Support preparation of semi-annual and annual Project Progress Reports
- Conduct field verification visits and strengthen partner monitoring systems
- Design and manage a centralized M&E database
- Facilitate project learning, annual reviews, and knowledge products

Qualifications & Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in environmental science, Natural Resource Management, Program Evaluation, Statistics, Economics, or related field (Master's degree an asset).
- Minimum three (3) years' experience in M&E for donor-funded projects (e.g., GEF, UN, IDB, WB, CDB).
- Proven experience designing and implementing Results-Based Management (RBM) systems, indicators, baselines, and targets.
- Proficiency in statistical/analytical software (e.g., R, SPSS, Stata) and database tools (e.g., Excel, Smartsheet).

Interested applicants may request a copy of the Full Terms of Reference by **e-mailing**: rbbpm.bbfpunit@opm.gov.bz with the subject line **"M&E Officer TOR."** Full TOR is also available on the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit's **Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages**.

Applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, 3rd July 2026 at 4:00 p.m.**
All applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview. The Committee will conduct due diligence to verify the information provided in the **detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV)** and during the interview process.

NEMO- CDEMA

Belize Concludes Training Programme 2026 CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit

Belize concluded the 2026 CARICOM Disaster Relief Unit (CDRU) National Training Programme today with a closing and certification ceremony recognizing more than forty emergency response personnel who completed the intensive week-long training.

Held from June 13 to 20, 2026, the programme was conducted through a partnership between the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and Belize's National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), with support from the Regional Security System (RSS) and the Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management.

The training brought together personnel from the Belize Defence Force, the Belize Coast Guard, the National Fire Service, and the Belize Search and Rescue Institute. Throughout the programme, participants engaged in classroom sessions and practical exercises focused on emergency relief operations, logistics and supply chain management, emergency telecommunications, team coordination, and safer building and engineering techniques that can be applied in post-disaster environments.

At today's closing ceremony, participants were presented with certificates in recognition of their successful completion of the programme and their commitment to strengthening Belize's disaster preparedness and response capabilities. The certification represents an important milestone in enhancing the country's cadre of trained responders and reinforces Belize's readiness to effectively respond to emergencies at both the national and regional levels.

The programme also welcomed Rear Admiral Errington Shurland, Executive Director of RSS, and Retired Lieutenant Colonel Mr. Kester Craig, Deputy Executive Director of CDEMA, whose participation underscored the importance of regional collaboration in building resilience and strengthening disaster management systems across the Caribbean.

The CDRU serves as the Caribbean's primary humanitarian response mechanism, comprising military, fire service, and police personnel from participating states who can be rapidly deployed to support countries affected by disasters. Through this training, Belize has further strengthened its operational readiness while contributing to a more resilient and coordinated regional response system.

The Ministry of the Public Service and Disaster Risk Management and NEMO extend their appreciation to CDEMA, the RSS, facilitators, and all participating officers for their dedication and commitment to advancing disaster preparedness and response capabilities in Belize and throughout the Caribbean. (release)

Belize Hosts 14th National Climate Outlook Forum Climate Resilience & Preparedness

"Strengthening Disaster Risk Management and Resilience through Climate Services in the Context of El Niño and Climate Extremes."

The National Meteorological Service of Belize (NMS), in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Service and Disaster Risk Management and development partners, today officially opened the 14th Annual National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) on Friday, June 19, 2026, under the theme, "Strengthening Disaster Risk Management and Resilience through Climate Services in the Context of El Niño and Climate Extremes."

The annual forum brings together government agencies, regional and international organizations, development partners, academia, the private sector, and civil society to examine current and projected climate conditions and strengthen Belize's capacity to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to climate-related hazards.

As climate variability and extreme weather events continue to affect countries around the world, the National Climate Outlook Forum serves as a vital platform for promoting collaboration, enhancing the use of climate information in decision-making, and ensuring that key sectors have access to timely and reliable data to support planning and preparedness efforts.

Over the course of the two-day forum, participants will engage in presentations, discussions, and technical sessions focused on:

- Seasonal climate and hurricane outlooks;
- El Niño and climate extremes and their implications for Belize;
- Disaster risk management and preparedness measures;
- Ongoing climate-related initiatives and partnerships;
- Advancements in technology, climate, and youth development, and local and international data collection and transmission;
- Sectoral climate impacts and resilience planning; and
- Strengthening climate services and coordination mechanisms.

Participants will also examine how climate information can be better integrated into national planning and decision-making processes, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, disaster risk management, food security, and community resilience. The forum further provides an opportunity for stakeholders to identify emerging challenges, share experiences and best practices, and develop practical recommendations for strengthening coordination and building resilience across Belize.

Special sessions throughout the forum will highlight ongoing initiatives designed to improve weather and climate monitoring, strengthen early warning systems, expand observational networks, and promote community- based approaches to resilience building. Discussions will also explore opportunities for greater youth engagement and the role of innovation and technology in advancing climate services and improving the accessibility of climate information.

Now in its fourteenth year, the National Climate Outlook Forum remains an important mechanism for bridging climate science and policy, fostering dialogue among stakeholders, and promoting the use of climate services as a cornerstone of sustainable development and disaster risk reduction in Belize. (release)

BELIZE Social Investment Fund — IDB Inter-American Development Bank

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Deadline Extension

Country:	Belize
Project:	Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas
Loan/Credit/Grant No.:	BL-L1045 (5753/OC-BL)
Institution:	Belize Social Investment Fund
Abstract:	National consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach in the selected beneficiary local
Contract/Bid No.:	BL-L1045-P00009
Deadline:	July 10, 2026

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), towards the cost of the Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") for National consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach in the selected beneficiary local. The objective is to strengthen the institutional capacity of VWBs through comprehensive training, enhancing their technical, financial, and management capabilities, and fostering inclusive participation, particularly of women and underrepresented groups in the water sector.

Scope of Services

1.1. Needs assessment and Training
- Conduct an initial assessment to identify current knowledge gaps and training needs in O&M, financial management, and water source protection, with emphasis on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Engage with key stakeholders to compile relevant existing resources, enabling the development of materials that build upon established work.
- Develop a gender-sensitive and culturally tailored training curriculum that addresses identified needs and aligns with local contexts.

1.2. Training Implementation
- Conduct training sessions covering effective O&M practices, financial planning, and sustainable water resource management, integrating climate change considerations and strategies to address drought, flooding, and forest fires.

1.3. Monitoring and Evaluation
- Develop a framework to measure training outcomes and participant progress.
- Conduct pre- and post-training assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of the training and provide feedback for continuous improvement.

The BSIF now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

From the expressions of interest received, the Executing Agency will prepare a short list comprising not fewer than five (5) and not more than eight (8) eligible firms.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to consulting firms' technical competence, qualifications and experience in relation to providing services in design and implementing water resource management or similar water sector training programs, as well as local and regional experience, and existing commitments. Technical competence of Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the ***QCBS method*** set out in the Consultant Policies. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours of ***8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (Local Belize Time), except on Public Holidays.***

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by ***July 10, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.*** The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked ***"Expression of Interest – Consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach"***

Attention:
Procurement Officer
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway Belmopan, Belize
Telephone: 822-0239 or 822-0508/9
E-mail: kyla.cho@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org
angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTIES

Corozal Town, Warree Bight, Corozal District; San Estevan Village, San Jose Village, Orange Walk District; Ladyville, Belize District; Belmopan, Mount Pleasant, Cayo District; Sarawee Village, Silk GrassVillage, Stann Creek District;

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Development Finance Corporation, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following properties. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until these properties are sold.

A: COROZAL DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 1033 F Street South, Corozal Town, Corozal District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Corozal Central	1	1033
The freehold property of Mr. Benjamin Jose Antonio Acosta.		

2. Parcel No. 769/1 Warree Bight, Corozal District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Warree Bight/ Freshwater Creek	3	769/1
The leasehold property of Mr. Johan Wall.		

B: ORANGE WALK DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 603/1 San Estevan Village, Orange Walk District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Estevan	1	603/1
The leasehold property of Ms. Hortencia Yanella Chan & Mr. Rosendo Melvin Chan.		

2. Parcel No.879 San Jose Village, Orange Walk District

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
San Jose/ San Pablo	1	879
The freehold property of Mr. Juan Marcos Teck.		

C: BELIZE DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 7026 Mile 13 in the Los Lagos area, Ladyville, Belize District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/ Lord's Bank	16	7026
The freehold property of Mr. Kevin Kemele Wade.		

2. Parcel No. 7007 Mile 13 in the Los Lagos area, Ladyville, Belize District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Ladyville/ Lord's Bank	16	7007
The freehold property of Ms. Violet Albertha Kelly and Lionel Edward Kelly.		

D. CAYO DISTRICT:

1. Parcel No. 1634 Flowers Street, Belmopan, Cayo District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Belmopan	20	1634
The freehold property of Mr. Melvin Andrew Gillett.		

2. Parcel No. 1152 Mount Pleasant Area situate Along the George Price Highway, Cayo District:

REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Mount Pleasant	20	1152
The freehold property of Messrs. AJ'S Group International Co. Ltd.		

D: STANN CREEK DISTRICT:

1. 404.550 S.M being Lot No. 165 & 166 in Sarawee Village Stann Creek District:

All that piece or parcel of land being Lot. 165 situate in Sarawee Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Ms. Marion Margaret Lamb surety for Mr. Norlan Absolon Lamb.

2. 766.235 S.M being Lot No. 256 in Silk Grass Village, Stann Creek District:

All that piece or parcel of land being Lot. 256 situate in Silk Grass Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Mr. Lucero Kristel Cruz and Mr. Marvin Salam surety for Mr. Lucero Kristel Cruz.

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"
TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auctions
DFC FINANCING AVAILABLE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Julio M. Escobar** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Julio's Corner"** located at # 7 Plunkett Road, Ladyville Village, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Mason Soberanis** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"M & Y Fast Food"** located at # 37 Mapp Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

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BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: VEHICLE

Corozal Town, Corozal District

BY ORDER of Messrs. St. Francis Xavier Credit Union Ltd., Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo andChristiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following vehicle. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this vehicle is sold.

2015 Dodge Journey

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"
TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE: 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
PUBLIC AUCTION SALES: PROPERTY & VEHICLES

Belize City, Sandhill Village Extension, Belize District.

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property and vehicles. Sales currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until this property and vehicles are sold.

1. Lot No. 249 Maxboro Area 1/2 Mile East of Philip Goldson Highway, Sandhill Village Extension, Belize District:

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land being Lot 249 situate in the Maxboro Area, Sandhill Village Extension, Belize District, the leasehold property of Mr. Sherielock Humes.

2. Vehicles:

2000 New Holland Backhoe Tractor

2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee

2014 Ford Fusion

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"
TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE: 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

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